MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

5 APRIL 1983

PLO Affairs

PLO-Jordanian Talks -- PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat held further talks in Amman with Jordanian King Husayn and also chaired PLO Executive Committee meetings before and after his talks, Amman radio reported. Despite earlier reports that the PLO and Jordan would issue a joint political declaration on 4 April, PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir subsequently announced that the statement was delayed for "technical" reasons, Radio Monte Carlo reported. PLO official spokesman 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar indicated that PLO-Jordanian disagreement prevented the publication of any statement, the radio noted. In its second meeting the PLO Executive Committee reiterated the PLO's rejection of President Reagan's plan as a basis for solving the Palestinian issue, Abu Mayzar announced afterward in a statement reported by WAKH. Asserting that a reconciliation between the Fes and Reagan plans is unlikely, the PLO spokesman stressed that the PLO adheres to its decision to reject any "authorization, intercession, or participation" in representing the Palestinian people. After its earlier meeting, the Executive Committee issued a statement broadcast by Baghdad Voice of PLO Radio denouncing Israeli policy and practices toward the Palestinians, in particular, the "poisoning" of girl students and recent "aggressions" against Muslim holy places.

Al-Asad-Habash Meeting -- George Habash, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), met with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in Damascus to discuss the Palestinian issue and "the need to confront Zionist-imperialist conspiracies aimed at liquidating the Palestinian cause and imposing a capitulatory settlement" on the Palestinians, Damascus radio reported. Noting that the Habash-Al-Asad meeting coincided with the first visit by a PFLP representative to Amman in 10 years, Radio Monte Carlo said a meeting between Al-Asad and 'Arafat has become necessary prior to the convocation of the extraordinary Arab summit conference in Fes.

Nabulus Attack -- The PLO claimed responsibility for the recent handgrenade attack on an Israeli patrol in the West Bank town of Nabulus, the PLO military spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio.

Egypt

Following his visit to the PRC President Husni Mubarak visited Pyongyang for talks with DPRK President Kim Il-song, MENA reported. According to Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Usamah al-Baz, Mubarak discussed cooperation in economic development and briefed Kim Il-song on the negotiations between PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat and King Husayn. Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali said his upcoming visits to Paris and Washington are aimed at giving impetus to the Middle East peace process, particularly regarding the Lebanese and Palestinian questions, according to MENA. Ghali reiterated the Egyptian Government's view that a Jordanian-Palestinian agreement on starting negotiations with Israel would give "new momentum" to the peace process and the future of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. He declared that Egypt "will then participate in these expanded negotations" to discuss the status of the West Bank and Gaza during the "transitional period" and the future of the "Palestinian territory," MENA noted.

Syria

"Surely the U.S. Administration and the Zionist enemy have realized the meaning of the Soviet warning against any military adventure against Syria," a TISHRIN commentary reviewed by Damascus radio declared. TISHRIN added that both the Soviet Government statement on the Middle East and Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko's comments at his recent news conference mean that the USSR is "quite serious" about its support for Syria.

A Soviet-Syrian maritime navigation agreement was signed by Transport Minister Muhammad Yunis and Soviet Minister of the Maritime Fleet Timofey Guzhenko, SANA announced. According to the 2-year agreement, which will be renewed automatically, the two sides will enjoy most-favored-nation status in commercial navigation. Both ministers described the agreement as contributing to the strengthening of bilateral relations, SANA added.

Lebanon

Lebanon has accepted the principle of joint patrols in the south on the basis that IDF soldiers participating in the patrols will move in Lebanese vehicles under the Lebanese flag, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported citing "informed sources." The radio also said Lebanon and Israel have agreed that Major Sa'd Haddad and his men will take orders from the Lebanese authorities. Beirut radio reports on the negotiations did not mention any agreement over Haddad's status but noted that the Lebanese negotiators at the 5 April Khaldah talks would use a new procedure designed to accelerate the negotiations and reach agreement "after overcoming the obstacles which prevented, and continue to prevent, a solution of the security problem in the south."

Oil Slick

No plans for an Iraqi-Iranian cease-fire in the Gulf area emerged from a meeting in Manama of environmental experts studying ways to fight the oil slick threatening the Gulf coastline, AFP reported. The spokesman for the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment said there had been no reference to the conditions posed by Iraq for a "provisional cease-fire" that would allow the war-damaged Iranian oil wells to be repaired. The Iranian envoy to Bahrain dismissed as "unacceptable" Iraq's demand for guarantees that Iran would not take advantage of the cease-fire to "clear up its own sea routes in the Gulf, particularly by sweeping them free of mines." The envoy declared that since Nowruz oilfield -- the location of the damaged oil wells -- had not been used "for production" during the past 3 years, it could not be considered part of the war zone, AFP added. In a subsequent IRNA report the Iranian deputy petroleum minister affirmed that Iran will be able to "fully control" the Nowruz oil spill "within 3 or 4 weeks."

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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BAGHDAD VOICE OF PLO ON EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE STATEMENT

JN041638 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1515 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has presided over a meeting of the PLO Executive Committee in Amman. The PLO Executive Committee issued the following statement today:

Masses of our Arab nation and of our Palestinian people: The Zionist enemy has perpetrated criminal actions to instill terror and fear in the hearts of our Palestinian people by exposing hundreds of our daughters in the schools in Janin, Hebron, and Tulkarm to poisoning within the framework of the implementation of its policy of expulsion, eviction of the inhabitants from their lands, and attempt to annexation of the occupied territories. Extremist Israeli groups, backed by the forces of occupation, descrated holy places and mosques in Yafo, as well as the Al-Aqsa Mosque and Al-Haram al-Ibrahimi [Tomb of Abraham] in implementation of the vicious Israeli policy which seeks to destroy and eliminate these places.

Our steadfast people in the occupied homeland stand fast and firm against the campaigns of annihilation of mankind and the aggression against these holy places.

The PLO Executive Committee considers these criminal events as complementing the Israel policy which seeks to evict the inhabitants, empty the land, harm the inhabitants' right, and disavow international norms. The PLO Executive Committee appeals to all those who have a living conscience and all peace-loving nations to support the Palestinian people in their national struggle to confront these Nazi measures and to liberate the Palestinian homeland from occupation. It calls on all international organizations and the United Nations to perform their full responsibility to put an end to the criminal attempts to exterminate mankind and carry out aggressions against holy places.

The PLO Executive Committee also calls on Arab and Islamic organizations to resoundingly raise their voices in denunciation of these barbaric acts which the forces of occupation are perpetrating in the occupied territories. The peace-loving peoples and nations in the world are called upon to impose sanctions against the Zionist entity, which is carrying out the most vicious killings and torture against our people in the occupied homeland.

We reaffirm to our Palestinian people and to our Arab nation that the Palestinian revolution will pursue its struggle to regain the usurped Palestinian right and to safeguard the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights. We are confident that [words indistinct] all these Zionist measures and attempts and to prevent them from achieving their objectives of spreading terror and fear among the ranks of the people and of forcing the people to emigrate from the homeland.

We are fully confident that our heroic masses in the occupied territories will foil these measures through their adherence to and defense of the homeland, their entrenchment of their national unity, and thier continuation of the struggle to confront oppression and occupation, to liberate our land, and to achieve our national independence.

The PLO Executive Committee hails the United Stand of our people [words indistinct] and the aggression against the holy places through which they have reiterated their rallying around the PLO, their sole legitimate representative, their support for the PNC resolutions and their categorical rejection of all imperialist attempts, whether they be U.S. or Zionist attempts [words indistinct] the confiscation of our people's right to repatriation, self-determination, and establishment of their own independent state on their national soil.

We continue to be confident that the Arab people, the peoples in the world, and their organizations and humanitarian institutions will stand at the side of our people and revolution in our struggle for liberation to regain our national rights, determine our own fate and establish the independent Palestinian state on the national soil.

[Signed] The PLO Executive Committee, 4 April 1983

Reagan Plan Rejected

JN042136 Manama WAKH in Arabic 2050 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Amman, 4 Apr (WAKH) -- The PLO Executive Committee has reiterated its rejection of President Reagan's plan as a basis for solving the Palestinian issue and reconfirmed its adherence to the Fes summit resolutions and the recent PNC resolutions as the minimum basis for an Arab move. This came in a statement by 'Abd al-Muhsin Abd Mayzar, the PLO's official spokesman, following the Executive Committee meeting under its chairman, Yasir 'Arafat, here tonight.

Replying to a question on the formation of a joint delegation, Abu Mayzar said: We, in practice, cling to the PLO as the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative and reject any formula on representation of this people by anyone else.

Speaking to journalists, Abu Mayzar referred to the Jordanian-Palestinian talks and said: We have asserted that we abide by the PNC resolutions and reject any authorization, intercession [tawsit], or participation in representing [the Palestinians].

Asked about the possibility of a reconciliation between the Fes and Reagan plans, Abu Mayzar expressed his belief that such a thing is unlikely, adding: The Fes resolutions as we understand them contradict the Reagan plan, which ignores our rights to repatriation and self-determination and disavows the PLO.

On the means of implementing the Fes summit resolutions, he said that, first, we have to cling to the Fes resolutions, underline this plan, and not relinquish the minimum of Arab rights.

Abu Mayzar indicated that the military option is not ruled out in the region and it is necessary to struggle using all political and military means in order to accomplish our objectives.

Replying to a question on the assessment of the Arab seven-member committee, he said that it has confirmed that the U.S. stance is hostile to the Palestinian and Arab peoples, the UK stance is a lesser evil, and the Soviet stance supports without reservation Arab and Palestinian rights and the Fes resolutions. The Soviet stand calls for an international conference as a practical method to implement the Fes resolutions. The PRC has showed support for the Fes summit resolutions, he said.

Abu Mayzar reiterated that the PLO rejects UN Resolution 242.

On another level, Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has stated that during its meeting in Amman tonight the PLO Executive Committee contacted PLO UN representative Suhdi at-Tarazi and supplied him with a comprehensive report on the situation in the occupied territories, particularly with regard to the poisoning cases and violation of holy places, in order to submit it to the UN Security Council.

Al-Wazir said that the committee discussed [words indistinct]. These are the situation in the occupied territories and the measures and steps it requires, relations with Jordan, and the talks held with the Jordanian side. He indicated that the review of the final statement on these talks has not been competed yet. [Words indistinct] the Higher Jordanian-Palestinian Committee met with Abu 'Ammar to review some remarks on the final statement, indicating that the (?committee) will resume its work in order to reach agreement on the final statement.

He stressed that the dangers menacing the Arab nation require the convocation of an Arab summit to preserve the Fes summit resolutions and what is threatening this nation.

Radio Monte Carlo Report

JN041518 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1500 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] In a press statement after today's PLO Executive Committee meeting in Amman, 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, official spokesman for the PLO, stressed that the United States was trying to establish a Palestinian state in Jordan. He added: We will resist any such plot because everything that harms Jordan harms us too.

On the PLO Executive Committee meeting, he said that a discussion was held on the current Jordanian-Palestinian talks and the recent reports received from the occupied territories. In this regard, Abu Mayzar asserted that Israel, with U.S. blessing, aims at terrorizing the Arab inhabitants in the occupied territories with a view to forcing them to emigrate.

Abu Mayzar indicated that the Executive Committee will meet again this afternoon to listen to a report from Chairman Yasir 'Arafat on the fourth round of talks he held today with King Husayn.

On U.S. President Reagan's plans, Abu Mayzar said there is one solution conducive to peace, the solution which takes into consideration the establishment of an independent Palestinian state and the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

ALGIERS VOP ON 'ARAFAT-HUSAYN DEVELOPMENTS

LD042045 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1700 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Dispatch from Kuwait by WAFA representative 'Abd al-Karim -- recorded]

[Text] Dear brothers, from Kuwait we turn the spotlight on what is taking place in the Jordanian capital between the brother leader Abu 'Ammar and King Husayn and between the brother leader Abu 'Ammar and the Palestinian leadership.

From Kuwait Brother Abu Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas], member of the PLO Executive Committee, is going to Amman. PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum also is going to Amman from Damascus, along with a number of Palestinian leaders, to attend a joint meeting of the PNC presidium and the Executive Committee. The meeting will be held in Amman today, before Abu 'Ammar leaves for Syria and then Tunisia, and then begins his visit to Indonesia, Czechoslovakia, and Sweden.

In Amman David Hurst says that the talks are important, and that is what Brother Abu 'Ammar says. Husyan says that they are crucial. The date of the coming emergency Arab summit, which is being called for by the Moroccan king, awaits the results of the Husayn-'Arafat talks. King Husayn wants Arab assent before negotiating so that he will not find himself jumping into the unknown. He insists on negotiating on the basis of the Reagan plan.

The Palestinians want a solution that lies between the Arab and Palestinian authorization.

Brother Abu 'Ammar has not yet announced his agreement, but he says that the talks will continue. He asserts that the area is close to a new war and that Israel has amassed more than five full divisions in the Al-Biqa' to launch a new aggression against Syria and the PLO.

In Amman Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], the deputy commander in chief, and Faruq Qaddumi, the head of the Political Department, announced that the Reagan plan does not respond to the aspirations of the Palestinian people. They asserted that the organization did not authorize King Husayn to represent the Palestinians in any talks, that the PLO recognizes only its decisions and regards them as the only basis for arriving at a just and lasting settlement in the Middle East.

As I said in a previous dispatch, reports confirm talk about transferring the issue from Amman to an Arab summit in Morocco and that Husayn's visit to America is going to be postponed until after this summit, to await its results.

AFP: ARAB SUMMIT MAY BE HELD 'NEXT WEEK'

NC041557 Paris AFP in English 1554 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Tunis, April 4 (AFP) -- The special Arab summit supervised by King Hassan II of Morocco may be held toward the end of next week, diplomats said here today. They said the summit could be held between April 15 and 18 in Morocco. Contacts were continuing to finalise the date and draw up an agenda, they added.

AL-WATAN: 'ARAFAT TO MEET ISRAELI CP CHAIRMAN

GF031028 Doha QNA in Arabic 0825 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] Kuwait, 3 Apr (QNA) -- The Kuwaiti paper AL-WATAN reported today that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will shortly meet with the chairman of the Israeli communist party (RAKAH) in Belgrade during his upcoming tour of the Soviet Union and a number of other communist countries. The paper added that this meeting was arranged when PLO Executive Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu Mazin, met with four members the Political Bureau of the Israeli communist party.

PLO OFFICIAL: ISRAELI USING GAS, RADIOACTIVE AGENTS

LD041343 Kuwait KUNA in English 1149 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Amman, April 4 (KUNA) -- A senior PLO official disclosed here Monday that the Israeli authorities have supplied Zionist settlers with nerve gas and harmful radioactive material to destroy life in the occupied lands. PLO's director of the occupied homeland affairs Hamad al-'Aydi told KUNA that reports from the West Bank reveal that the criminal attempts aim at foiling the people's steadfastness and at the same time to spread infertility. "Such barbaric behavior is an unprecedented wicked means of mass killing that the world has never seen before," the PLO official charged.

He regretted the passive Arab stance over such development in the Israeli war of genocide and pointed out that peace which Israel can afford [as received] is now uncovered. He elaborated that such peace stipulates retaining the occupied land without the Arab inhabitants.

These internationally-banned methods are available and can be used at any time, Al-'Aydi stressed, adding "but the Palestinian fighter's manners do not accept resorting to such mean practices despite our sufferings in the past long years."

In the meantime, a statement issued by AL-'AYDI's department demanded an immediate intervention of the International Red Cross Committee, the World Health Organization and the human rights commission to investigate the homicidal crisis in the occupied West Bank. The statement appealed to all parties to move quickly and decisively in a bid to halt the cruel crime and to avoid its recurrence in other occupied Arab areas.

BAGHDAD VOICE OF PLO ON KHALAF'S LAND DAY SPEECH

JN011725 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1508 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] Brothers, the PLO office in Kuwait has held a big public rally on the seventh anniversary of Land Day attended by thousands of Arabs and Palestinians. The rally began with the Kuwaiti and Palestinian national anthems. A group from the Palestinian Revolution Youth League then presented an artistic display which won the masses' administration.

Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] delivered a speech on behalf of the Palestinian revolution and Fatah. He began by asking: Where is the Arab and Islamic nation? We are in need of a voice which will stand by our people in the occupied territory.

He said: They want us to fall into the settlement swamp and they call this realism. We reject the Reagan plan, and we will not authorize anyone to represent our people and revolution. We will also not succumb to the enormous Arab pressure. Furthermore, we do not fear the threats by the Egyptian regime. We challenge the agents to face our boys and girls in the occupied territory. Our slogan will continue to slap the agents and opportunists in the face. We will not surrender. We will not surrender.

Brother Abu Iyad added: On Land Day we extend our greetings to Kuwait, to its good land and people who stand by us with love and solidarity until we return to our land. As we experience these difficult days, we feel the need for a sympathetic voice which will stand by our people in the occupied territory facing the Zionist war of annihilation. We extend our greetings and feelings of pride to our girls who are facing hatred and poison in a criminal enemy attempt to render them sterile so they will not bear children for Palestine.

Abu Iyad derided such attempts and said: Still, our women will bear scores and hundreds of children so the name of Palestine will remain a specter threatening our enemies.

He added: We must face the Zionist enemy's military actions everywhere. The revolution must check plots from all directions: in Lebanon, from north to south; in the towns of the West Bank and Gaza; and everywhere in Palestine.

Brother Abu Iyad disclosed that enormous pressures are being put on the Palestinian revolution to make it accept U.S. and Zionist solutions. He said: They want us to fall into the settlement swamp. They are spreading terrorism against us and putting pressure on us. They accuse us of being unrealistic. More than that, they tell us: You want more misery for your people. Accept what is offered you. This is how the regimes understand confrontation. But to the Palestinian revolution, confrontation differs and conflicts with all these capitulatory positions. To the Palestinian revolution, confrontation is fighting the enemy and forcing it to recognize our rights and the rights of our people.

Brother Abu Iyad added: They frighten us with time. They tell us: The U.S. elections are approaching, time is running out, and new settlements are being built daily on your lands. Do you want the land or the organization? This logic is rejected. Whoever differentiates between the land the organization presents an arbitrary differentiation between the occupied homeland and its legitimate leadership.

Brother Abu Iyad said: They ask us to accept the Reagan plan so we will not be accused of being utopian and unrealistic. We were not utopian when we took up arms. We were not utopian when we defended the revolution everywhere. We were also not utopian when we preserved the independent Palestinian decision. Therefore, we will not accept the Reagan plan and take realism to mean raising the white flag.

Brother Abu Iyad asked: How will we avenge what is happening to our people? He said: Our vengeance will not be tribal, but will be mature and tough. It will be a pledge that the revolution will continue. It will be a pledge to all martyrs and revolutionaries that this revolution will continue. Brother Abu Iyad continued: When the resistance left Beirut, the PNC held its session. There was interference before and during this session. But all this interference fell outside the council's door.

Brother Abu Iyad added: To all those who ask us to choose between the land or the organization and to all those who remind us of the past when we rejected the partitional plan and all previous liquidation and capitulatory plans, we say: We, as a Palestinian leadership, are part of this people. We will not betray its mission nad objectives. Our people want their homeland, Palestine. One part of Palestine is as precious as another. Just as Janin, Nabulus, Jerusalem, Gaza, and Hebron are dear to our hearts, Haifa, Yafo, and all of the Palestinian territory are also dear and precious. Begin will not be able to change the facts of the land even if he changes the names, the borders, and the features.

At the conclusion the rally addressed cables to the amir of Kuwait and Brother Abu 'Ammar, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee.

BENDJEDID WILLING TO MEDIATE PLO-SYRIAN DIFFERENCES

GF020642 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0615 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] Fatah Central Committee Member Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, has stressed that Palestinian-Syrian relations will witness a rapproachement in the next few months due to the mediation undertaken by Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. In a statement to the Qatari paper AL-'ARAB published today, Khalaf noted that this issue was discussed during the Algerian president's recent meeting with the Palestinian delegation led by PLO Executive Committee chairman Yasir 'Arafat. At this meeting President Bendjedid expressed his readiness to visit Damascus and discuss with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad relations between the PLO and Damascus. He added that the Palestinian delegation told the Algerian president that the PLO is ready to overcome any obstacle that obstructs improvement of relations with Syria.

HAWATIMAH PAYS VISIT TO HUNGARY 27 MAR-3 APR

For Hungarian media coverage of the visit of Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, to Hungary 27 March-3 April, see the Hungarian section of the 30 March Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

INA: DEMAND FOR AFRICA'S LIGHT CRUDE INCREASES

JN010952 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0815 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] Vienna, 1 Apr (INA) -- Knowledgeable sources in Vienna have indicated that the price differentials on which an agreement was reached during the recent OPEC emergency ministerial meeting in London have become inconsistent with the present status of the world oil market.

The sources told the INA correspondent in Vienna that the slight [qillat] differentials between relatively light and heavy-density oil -- not exceeding $1 -- have increased the demand for light oil.

The sources indicated that Nigeria during March increased its daily production of light oil from 700,000 to 1.3 million barrels. The same sources explained that the differentials should exceed the present rate by at least $2, so that the other OPEC producers, particularly the Arab Gulf states, can sell their oil on basis of $29 per barrel and that the demand should not be confined to North African light oil.

The sources cautioned against the increasing demand, which they expect to go on throughout 1983, adding that this would lead to world storage as in 1979 and would affect OPEC prices.

It is worth noting that daily OPEC production was jacked up to 15 million barrels last month compared to 14.7 million in February.

GULF AFFAIRS

EMERGENCY MEETINGS ADDRESS GULF OIL SLICK PROBLEM

Iraq, Iran, GCC Members Attend

LD041340 Kuwait KUNA in English 1235 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Kuwait, April 4 (KUNA) -- The Iranian deputy premier Reza Hoseyn Merza Taheri [name and title as received] arrived in Kuwait today to attend the ministerial meeting of the regional organisation for the protection of environment which comprises member countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council in addition to Iraq and Iran who are engaged in a three-years war. Observers here believe that today's meeting would succeed in working out practical measures to cope with an oil slick from the Iranian Nowruz oil field which is threatening water and fisheries in the Arab Gulf countries.

Iran, which has been reportedly reluctant to cooperate in fighting the population menace, has blamed Iraq for causing the damage. The Arab countries do not wish that Iran makes use of today's meeting to raise political issues.

So far, Bahrain and Qatar, the two small Arab Gulf oil-producing countries, are the most affected by the oil slick.

The matter has been seriously considered by countries of the region. Precautionary measures were taken to lessen threats posed by this oil spot which has spread over a large area in the Arab Gulf. People in the Gulf countries began storing drinking water but their governments assured that water treatment plants were well-protected.

Some Gulf officials, meanwhile, accused the Western mass media of exaggerating the menace of the slick as to create confusion in the region. These officials also accused the Western industrial countries of exploiting the situation to increase the prices of the pollution-fighting equipment by almost 150 percent. During tomorrow's meeting, it is expected that Western experts in pollution fighting will be invited to help. Barriers and sand blocks were built on the shores of Qatar and Bahrain while Kuwait, the UAE and others were sending their helicopters and coast guard boats to patrol the Gulf water and report to the early warning posts on their findings.

The emergency committees expect the oil spot to reach the UAE coast in three weeks if it continued to move in its direction due to the northern wind. Kuwait and other Gulf countries are witnessing heavy rain this month of the year, an exceptional case in this desert region which usually goes dry by early March.

Saudi Arabia reported that large numbers of dead fish were spotted on its eastern shores but it is early to say that this has been caused by the Iranian oil.

Some experts here estimate that 15,000 barrels of crude oil are now floating over an area of about 240 miles since the start of the slick last February.

So far, Japanese, French, and British companies have shown interest in helping the Gulf countries fight the threat of the pollution. This offer will be considered in today's meeting, however.

Shutdown Proposed

GF041900 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1800 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Manama, 4 Apr (WAKH) -- The Gulf countries' environment experts have decided to submit a number of recommendations to the health ministers meeting which will be held in Kuwait next Wednesday.

Khalid Fakhru, director of the fisheries department at the Bahraini Ministry of Commerce and Agriculture has said that in the meeting they held in Bahrain this morning, the Gulf countries' environment experts felt it is necessary to quickly close down the Nowruz field from which the oil is gushing. He added that the experts also decided to form a technical committee to evaluate and determine the damage in the Gulf.

Fakhru said the experts agreed to continue surveillance flights to monitor the latest movements of the slick in the territorial waters of each country and to pass this information together with what has been seen, noticed, and discovered to the other countries.

Fakhru expressed confidence that the health ministers meeting in Kuwait on Wednesday will adopt a collective decision on this issue in order to put an end to this oil slick and its damage.

Qatar's Coasts 'Clean'

GF041610 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1500 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Manama, 4 Apr (WAKH) -- Khalid Fakhru, director of the Gulf countries' Mutual Emergency Aid Center and chairman of Bahrain's task force formed to combat the oil slick, has announced that the Gulf countries' environmental experts reviewed during their meeting in Manama today all available technical information to fight the region's oil slick from the spill in the Iranian oil fields. He said experts studied this information and will put forward a plan on how to deal with the problem, noting that technicians affirm that one of the first priorities is to close down the main well from which the oil is leaking and then to fight the oil patch.

In a press conference held this evening following a meeting by the experts, Fakhru said the Iranian oil wells are now leaking a small quantity of oil but that the quantity of the leaked oil has not been determined yet. He affirmed that there are no foreign teams working in fighting the oil slick and that there is no intention of calling in such teams at present. "If the situation warrants, such teams will be called in for all Gulf countries to break up the oil slick," he said.

He also affirmed that there is no effect on navigation in the Gulf region. "Navigation and movements are normal and there is nothing unusual," he added.

In Doha, it was announced today that the threat to Qatar's coasts from the oil slick floating on the Gulf waters has passed. Aerial surveillance by a Qatari information mission has determined that the oil slick is moving away from Qatar's coasts, thanks to the winds. Last night's and today's southeasterly and northwesterly winds which blew at a speed of 26 and 25 knots per hour broke up the major oil slick to small patches of 30 meters long and 25 meters wide and also drove it from Qatar's coasts. QNA affirms that Qatar's coasts are completely clean. It is believed that the floating oil is light in density and it is probable that the higher-density oil has mostly sunk into the sea.

IRAN ENVOY TO GULF MEETING DISMISSES IRAQI OFFER

NC041805 Paris AFP in English 1802 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Manama, April 4 (AFP) -- No plans for a ceasefire in the war between Iran and Iraq emerged today from the meeting here of environmental experts studying ways to fight the giant oil slick threatening the Gulf coastline.

Bahraini delegate Khalid Fakhru, spokesman for the eight countries represented on the Regional Organisation for the Protection of Marine Environment (ROPME), said that the meeting was purely technical. He added that there had been no reference to the conditions posed by Iraq for a "provisional ceasefire" that would allow the repair of war-damaged Iranian oil-wells from which the oil has poured into the northern Gulf.

Baghdad had demanded guarantees that Iran would not take advantage of the ceasefire to clear up its own sea routes in the Gulf, particularly by sweeping them free of mines.

The ROPME experts are preparing for Wednesday's eight-nation ministerial conference that will tackle the dangers posed to the Gulf by the oil slick, particularly to fresh-water supplies from desalination plants.

Questioned on the Iraqi conditions, Iranian Ambassador to Kuwait 'Ali Shams Ardakani, a member of ROPME's executive committee, dismissed them as "unacceptable." Mr Ardakani said that Iran's Nowruz oilfield, the location of the damaged oil wells, had not been used for production in the last three years, and could not therefore be considered part of the war zone.

Mr Fakhru said that today's meeting had dealt with how best to plug the leaks and monitor the slicks. He said that the damaged wells were no longer pouring more than 3,000 barrels of oil into the Gulf daily, and that the experts were battling to measure the extent of the slick and the means needed to fight it. But he added that there had been no reports of the arrival of any slick along the Gulf coastline, or of any serious impact on Gulf shipping.

Mr Fakhru said that at least one tanker had been caught washing out its tanks into the Gulf. He feared other tankers were taking advantage of the slicks to do the same.

The Bahraini environmental chief said recently that it would take from one to five weeks to plug the Iranian oil leaks. So far the war between Iran and Iraq has prevented any repair work.

The giant oil slick is drifting towards Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, threatening not only marine life and coastal fishing, but also freshwater supplies from desalinization plants. Qatar's two main plants offer the only supply of fresh water for 250,000 people. The slick was reported only seven kms (four miles) off Qatar's coast last week, but it has apparently been blown farther out to sea since then.

The damaged oil wells are 300 kms (150 miles) north from the threatened coastlines. One, an unused well, has been leaking since February 8. Three other wells were bombed by Iraqi planes on March 2. Two are still in flames and the third is pouring oil into the Gulf. An estimated 6,000 to 10,000 barrels of oil have been pouring into the Gulf daily, forming a series of slicks the size of Belgium, and containing an estimated 70,000 tons of oil. But a high Saudi Arabian oil official said today that the slick nearest to any section of the Gulf coastline was 80 kms (48 miles) from Saudi shores. Observers here said that the slicks covered nearly one-fourth of the northern part of the Gulf, stretching from the Iranian oil terminal of Kharg Island southwards.

BAHRAIN

AMIR ENCOURAGES COLLECTIVE ARAB ACTION

LD041521 Riyadh SPA in English 1242 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Jidda, April 4, SPA -- The Arab states should adopt a unified and bold stand compatible with the current crucial stage they are facing, Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah was quoted here as saying.

In a statement to the Jidda-based UKAZ, the Bahraini leader said the Arab world "should not neglect the time factor so as to deprive the Zionist entity of carrying out its dream of the so-called greater Israel. The Arabs should adopt collective action based on the pan-Arab Middle East peace plan of Fes, so as to recover their usurped rights and foil the malicious Zionist expansionist designs" Shaykh 'Isa added.

Commenting on the Palestinian-Jordanian talks currently underway in Amman between King Husayn of Jordan and PLO's Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, the Bahraini leader stressed that the whole Arab world "will place its full weight behind any unified Jordanian-Palestinian stand aiming at recovering usurped Arab rights and liberating occupied Arab territory."

He emphasized that the Gulf Cooperation Council's member states "are effectively contributing to the Middle East peace process and giving full attention to ensuring the Palestinian people's inalienable rights."

Shaykh 'Isa urged peoples of the council states to do their best "to strengthen inter-Arab ties and abandon any differences that can obstruct Arab higher goals."

KUWAIT

SPECULATION ON UPCOMING ARAB SUMMIT PARLEY

LD041403 Kuwait KUNA in English 1106 GMT 4 Apr 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Kuwait, April 4 (KUNA) -- "AR-RAY AL'AMM" on the extraordinary Arab summit conference:

"It seems that the invitation to an Arab extraordinary summit meeting is on its way to Arab leaders. At the summit they will listen to a report on the Arab seven-member committee's tour in the capitals of the five big powers, to inform them on the Fes plan. The summit will also review Reagan's plan and the Jordanian-Palestinian approach. The invitation to this sudden summit came at a time when the seven-member committee was expected to meet in Morocco to prepare a report to be distributed among Arab leaders to inform them of the big powers stance toward the Fes plan.

"What we want to say is that the stances of those countreis are the same as before the Fes peace plan. The mission carried by the committee was a diplomatic one and its results, which were expected before hand, is not in a need for a sudden Arab summit conference.

"Therefore we assume the reason for the summit is related to Reagan's plan, which some people say is a step to reach the Fes plan.

"Anyhow, we are for the summit, but we hope that if it is held the United States and Israel will not be allowed to liquidate Palestine and the Arab reality, under the pretext that the opportunity should not be lost."

"KUWAIT TIMES" on the same subject:

"It is beginning to look as though the Middle East peace process is going to shift from Amman to yet another summit called for by Morocco at the request of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

"If agreement on this is reached then the present talks between the PLO and King Husayn of Jordan would probably be adjourned and the question of Jordan's role in Middle East peace negotiations would be left in abeyance until the summit later this month.

"At this stage such a move seems to be just about all that can be expected of the Amman talks. It never really did seem on that last September's Fes plan based on an independent Palestinian state would be sufficiently reconciled with Reagan's vision of a form of self-government in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip in association with Jordan for further progress to be made.

"Israel has set a hard face against any idea of cooperating in the search for an overall settlement of the Palestine problem. It is determined to consider peace with Lebanon as a separate matter, leaving it with influence throughout Lebanon and control of the border in the south.

"Intransigency, as ever, is the name of Israel's game. Consequently, next stop for the Arabs would seem to be the summit suggested by Morocco and welcomed by Saudi Arabia."

QNA: FRIDAY SERMON BROADCASTS BANNED

GF041932 Doha QNA in Arabic 1830 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Kuwait, 4 Apr (QNA) -- The Kuwaiti Ministry of Information has issued a decision banning official information organs from broadcasting any Friday prayer sermons from mosques unless this sermon is known beforehand so that the sermons do not go beyond their original task of guidance and exhortaion and to keep them from meddling with people's private affairs and slandering them.

This was reported in today's issues of the Kuwaiti newspapers AS-SIYASAH and AL-WATAN. The newspapers added that this decision was issued after it was noticed that personal feuds in mosques' sermons sometimes create social disorder.

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM ON KING HUSAYN'S VISIT TO U.S.

GF041850 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 3 Apr 83 pp 1, 83

['Abdallah al-Qaq dispatch]

[Text] Well-informed sources told AR-RA'Y Al-'AMM that the Gulf countries do not want the Jordanian monarch to undertake a visit to the United States before the convening of the proposed Arab summit for which the Moroccan monarch is holding contacts -- with the aim of holding an expanded or a mini-summit -- in order to reach a unified stand toward the new Arab and international developments in light of the meetings of the members of the Arab seven-member committee with the leaders of the five permanent UN members.

These sources added that the messages the Saudi monarch and Iraqi President Saddam Husayn sent to the Jordanian monarch are within the framework of existing consultations concerning the next stage and within the framework of waiting due to absence of approval for any future negotiations that may be sponsored by the United States.

These sources pointed out that the Jordanian monarch has become convinced that even if he agrees to begin a new stage of negotiations, Israel will not agree to the Arab conditions which are based on the resolutions of the Fes summit. Moreover the latter has not stopped the construction of settlements in the West Bank despite U.S. threats.

These sources also noted that the next 2 weeks will witness a large-scale Arab move toward the Arab and international issues where the Jordanian monarch may undertake an urgent visit to Saudi Arabia and to some fraternal countries in order to exchange views regarding current developments in light of his talks with PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat who totally rejected President Reagan's initiative because "it does not meet the Palestinian aspirations."

Although there is optimism about the Jordanian-Palestinian talks and the stance of Jordan which rejects any solution that does not grant the Palestinians their just rights, the United States is still exerting pressure on Jordan to join the next talks in order to break the stalemate that threatens the region with a new explosion which Israel will exploit to launch an attack against Al-Biqa' and Syria.

Diplomats expect the Soviet threat to currently have a great effect in preventing any confrontation between Israel and the Syrian forces. The Soviet leadership expressed opposition to such Israeli operations as those which were carried out in Lebanon and were aimed at the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese national movement.

ARAB LEADERS URGED TO SPEAK MORE HONESTLY

GF041042 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 3 Apr 83 p 6

["Opinion" column by Ahmad al-Jarallah: "Why Not Make Public What Is Said in Private?"]

[Text] What would happen were Arab leaders to speak honestly to their people and tell them the facts about their national aspirations?

Some people still speak of their ability to defeat the United States and Israel and to foil Soviet plans.

Why don't we speak honestly with our people.

During the Second World War, Winston Churchill told the British people that all he had to offer were blood, sweat and tears. He gave them the harsh truth. We in the Arab world speak of the best and hide the reality of the worst.

While the Lebanese were paying in blood, the public pronouncements were different from the facts, right up till the last moment.

What prevents PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and King Husayn, along with all Arab leaders, from being frank with their people. What is being said in public is again different from what is said behind closed doors. The Arab people should be told what is being said privately, so that they can assess their own strength.

The Arab world represents more than 20 states while Israel is one with united beliefs and one ideology. We on the other hand have more than one belief and ideology.

The whole world is puzzled about whether to support the Gulf states, Libya, Syira, Iraq or Egypt. Political attitudes are many and even within these attitudes there are local divergencies.

Syria says it will fight King Husayn if Jordan begins negotiations with Israel as Egypt did. Libya is not pleased because of the closing of ties between Morocco and Algeria, and between Algeria and Tunis.

Hence, the Arab peoples are living amid the struggles of their regimes, which say one thing in public and another in private.

OIL MINISTER PRAISES NIGERIA'S PRICING DECISION

LD020850 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0714 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] Kuwait, 2 April (KUNA) -- 'Ali al-Khalifah as-Sabah, Kuwait's oil minister, has described Nigeria's decision not to reduce its oil prices as a clear and strong reflection of OPEC's cohesion.

In a statement to Kuwaiti AR-RA'Y Al-'AMM published here today, the Minister said that Nigeria's decision was a wise step and proves Nigeria's farsightedness in regard to such an important issue as oil prices. The minister affirmed that there is no justification for attempts some new agencies are making to arouse doubts, and time will show that the recent London agreement was "a complete agreement."

It is recalled that Nigeria announced yesterday that it will not change the oil prices despite the proposed cut in the North Sea oil prices.

QATAR

CONVOCATION OF ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE SUPPORTED

GF041400 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 4 Mar 83

[Text] His Excellency Foreign Minister Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani announced today that Qatar supports the idea of convening an Arab summit conference as soon as possible provided that it is preceded by a preparatory meeting to ensure its success. This came in a statement his excellency made to QNA in which he said:

The state of Qatar supports the idea of holding an Arab summit conference as soon as possible because convening such a conference now requires an exchange of views among Arab leaders on the highest levels on the latest developments of our major issues, foremost of which the Palestine cause, and the need to define the Arab stand on them in view of the outcome of the activities of the Arab seven-member committee in particular and the new situation and circumstances on the Arab and international levels since the recent Fes summit conference. However, Qatar sees that at the same time it is necessary for the Arab summit conference to be preceded by the necessary consultative meetings to carefully prepare for it and ensure its success in attaining its fateful goals.

The state of Qatar, which believes tha the unity of Arab ranks is the only method which guarantees our understanding of our common goals in liberating our land and restoring our rights, is sure that we all know that we have not been in more need for our comprehensive solidarity and for the mustering of our common efforts to attain these goals under our circumstances and the current international circumstances. Consequently, we will remain committed to this solidarity and will do everything possible to unify our efforts in the service of our fateful causes.

SAUDI ARABIA

YAMANI INTERVIEWED ON SAUDI FOREIGN POLICIES

LD031433 Riyadh SPA in English 1223 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, April 3, SPA -- Saudi Arabia welcomes and supports any Arab summit or meeting or moves that will serve the objective of the Arab nation and re-establish Arab unity, press reports today quoted Saudi Information Minister Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani as saying.

In an interview published by Abu Dhabi-based newspapers AL-ITTIHAD and AL-BAYAN, Dr Yamani said King Fahd spared no efforts to "encourage any Arab moves contributing to Arab solidarity and help in the recovery of usurped Arab rights." These objectives have been the motive power behind the Saudi monarch's positive initiatives to consolidate Arab solidarity, heal Arab differences and adopt a collective action to face challenges of the Arabs' enemies," he added.

Dr Yamani stressed that the Kingdom was keen to move within a joint Arab framework to "preserve Arab higher interests, free Arab territory of the Zionists occupation and bring about a just and honorable solution to the Palestine question which could ensure the Palestinian rights including the establishment of an independent state under the leadership of the PLO and the return of Jerusalem to the Arab fold." He called for a collective Arab action since a solution to the Palestine question depended on realising this goal.

The information minister urged the Palestinian people to accept realistic and logical solutions that could ensure the recovery of their legitimate rights.

Commenting on the Kingdom's stand on the Lebanese crisis, Dr Yamani said with the support to their president and government, the Lebanese people have proved their ability to adopt a collective action, as they are aware of the enemy's designs to tighten its grip on Lebanon and continue its occupation there. He added that all the Arabs nations supported the Lebanese moves to preserve Lebanon's sovereignty, security and stability.

The minister praised the great achievements realised by the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) in such a record time. He described the formation of the council as an effective Arab step to realise an all-out unity not only in the Gulf region but also all over the Arab and Islamic world.

RIYADH COMMENTS ON JORDANIAN-PALESTINIAN SUMMIT

LD031726 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Apr 83

[From the "Analyses" program presented by Hamzah Muhsin as-Saqqaf]

[Text] In the midst of today's delicate political conditions and changes, the Jordanian-Palestinian summit is meeting within the framework of the higher committee, which began its work in the Jordanian capital last Thursday.

The work of this summit and its side meetings is concentrated on two main topics, namely, Jordanian-Palestinian relations and a Jordanian-Palestinian posture regarding political moves to solve the Middle East problem. These two topics are considered to be the most delicate items on the agenda of the Higher Jordanian-Palestinian Committee talks and one of the questions upon which the future of Palestinian survival, and subsequently the Middle East, depends.

Under the umbrella of Jordanian-Palestinian relations fall all broad and detailed lines of the Palestinian state, for which all parties are unanimous about its independence. Meanwhile, a joint Jordanian-Palestinian posture toward political moves to solve the Middle East problem has to fix the possibility of transferring this movement to an advanced stage. The Palestinian posture, since the Fes resolutions were issued, has remained bent on maintaining Arab consensus by backing peace initiatives in the Middle East and in tipping the scales in their favor through positive action in crystalizing the Arab peace plan, which considers the convening of the Higher Jordanian-Palestinian Committee as one of its important (?exertions).

The world has reaped nothing from the Israeli posture other than obstacles and violations in the peace efforts and the postures of the other parties, including American posture, which has weakened because of the intransigence of the Israeli posture. Despite the clouds of failure overshadowing the political atmosphere in the Middle East, the Palestinian posture has remained faithful to its commitment to back the peace efforts, being driven to this by a number of factors. The most important of these is the increasing international backing for the Palestinian question. This has been confirmed on many spheres, possibly the foremost of these being the visits of the Arab seven-member committee to the capitals of the permanent member states of the UN Security Council and their positive results, which were accompanied by the consensus of the countries of the European Common Market affirming the role of the PLO in the Middle East peace efforts. Parallel to the European posture are the postures of other countries, which are backing of the Palestinian question, including the Soviet Union and the PRC, while the American posture remains tied to loyalty for the Israeli posture, a matter which has made the postures of the others toward the American peace efforts fluctuate between rejection and reservation.

In the light of this positive international posture, the Palestinian movement is drawing closer to the circle of hope regarding the success of the peace efforts. Subsequently it coincides further with the Jordanian side on a number of strategic issues regarding the question of the future of bilateral relations and a common posutre toward political moves to solve the Middle East question. This coming together has been reflected through the summit meetings and the meetings of the Jordanian-Palestinian committee in Amman, which were seen by observers as dispersing possible Jordanian-Palestinian differences.

While the Jordanians and the Palestinians move forward with absolute commitment to the Arab posture as embodied in the Fest summit resolution, the Palestinian side adds to this a positive strength by the Palestinian National Council supporting the posture of Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, in the sphere of political action.

It is worthwhile pointing out that the Amman meeting came in the wake of a tour by 'Arafat to Arab capitals, which ended with his visit to Damascus and what accompanied it by way of high-level Palestinian meetings at the political and military level on Arab action and forthcoming phased plans. The results of the Amman summit will be the main working paper on the agenda of the forthcoming Arab summit expected to be held in Morocco during the second half of April.

COMMENT ON ISRAELI 'WAR' ON PALESTINIAN YOUTH

LD042313 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Husayn al-Askari Commentary]

[Text] The authorities of the Israeli enemy have decided to close down schools for 1 week in the occupied West Bank beginning today without giving any reason. The main and declared aim of the war the Israeli enemy is waging against the Palestinian citizens on occupied Palestine is to make the Palestinians depart, leaving behind them their land and homes for the Jewish settler. But this fierce and inhumane war has for some years been taking on a new dimension which concentrates on the need to escalate the terrorism and oppression to which the Palestinian citizens are being exposed, out of the enemy's belief that this is the most effective method to make the Arab citizens abandon their homes and run for their lives.

But there has been a new axis around which the enemy has begun to move in his war against the Arab citizens in the occupied territories. This involves directing this war against the young Palestinian generation. In other words, the enemy wants to strike at the plant when very young, opening fire on student demonstrations and gatherings and recently resorting to the chemical warfare -- the enemy's authorities injected drinking water in some Arab schools with materials that cause sterility to both males and females. This exposed more than 600 Arab girls to an unusual illness which sent them to the hospital in a state of exhaustion.

All these are but convincing indications that a new and grave stage in the Israeli confrontation of the presence of the Palestinian man on his land has begun in an extremel well-planned manner. This must convince one that the enemy authorities insist on directing war against [word indistinct]. These authorities are well-convinced that the adherence of the Palestinian man to his land and his readiness to die for it are impossible to defeat by the methods of [word indistinct] war. Thus the enemy authorities had to resort to waging war against the Palestinian children and youth.

CROWN PRINCE SEES TUNISIAN, PAKISTANI MINISTERS

LD031432 Riyadh SPA in English 1227 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] Riyadh, April 3, SPA -- Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah, the first deputy premier and commander of the national guard, received here today visiting Tunisian Economy Minister Abdelaziz Lasram.

The audience was attended by Saudi Industry and Electric Power Minister Dr Ghazi al-Quasaybi. The crown prince also received governors of monetary agencies and central banks from the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

The audience was attended by Saudi Finance and National Economy Minister Muhammad Aba al-Khayl, GCC Assistant Secretary General for Economic Affairs Dr 'Abdallah al-Quwayz and Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (SAMA) Governor Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Qureshi.

Later Visiting Pakistani Interior Minister Mahmud A. Haroon called on the crown prince. The audience was attended by Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

UAE

OIL MINISTER WELCOMES NIGERIAN DECISION

GF031342 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1045 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 3 Apr (WAKH) -- Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE petroleum and natural resources minister, has welcomed Nigeria's decision not to lower its oil prices after Britain's decision to make another reduction in the prices of the North Sea oil.

In a statement today, Dr al-'Utaybah described the new reduction which Britain made recently as reasonable and will help in stabilizing the world's oil market, something OPEC is anxious to achieve.

Dr al-'Utaybah expressed confidence that no oil-producing country in or out of OPEC will take any unilateral step to lower oil prices and thus prevent any disruption in the world oil market and prevent an eruption of a price war.

PDRY

ALGERIAN LIGHT INDUSTRY MINISTER DEPARTS 2 APRIL

GF021747 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Brother Said ait-Messaoudene, member of the Central Committee of the Algerian National Liberation Front and minister of light industry, left Aden this morning, concluding a visit to the PDRY that lasted for several days.

BRIEFS

AGREEMENTS WITH HUNGARY, USSR -- Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers, has issued a decree approving the PDRY-Hungarian scientific and technical cooperation agreement concluded in Aden on 2 February 1983. He also issued another decree approving the PDRY-USSR economic and technical cooperation protocol signed in Aden on 17 February 1983. [Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 2 Apr 83 GF]

GHALI DISCUSSES VISITS TO PARIS, WASHINGTON

NC041824 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1615 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Cairo, 4 Apr (MENA) -- Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has stated that his tour that will start tomorrow, Tuesday, with a visit to Paris and then Washington was assigned to him by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak to give impetus to the peace process in the Middle East, particularly regarding the Lebanese and Palestinian questions. In a statement he made today, Ghali said that on Wednesday he will deliver a written message from President Mubarak to French President Mitterrand.

Ghali said that on Tuesday evening he will hold an important session of talks with French Minister of State for External Affairs Claude Cheysson. They will assess the situation in Lebanon and the situation regarding the Palestinian question in light of the French-Egyptian stand on all aspects of the Middle East situation. This stand is based on the premise that all foreign forces must withdraw from Lebanon so that moves can be made to solve the Palestinian question.

Ghali further said that he will hold similar talks in Washington during his visit, which will begin on Thursday, and that he will deliver a message from President Mubarak to U.S. President Ronald Reagan. He pointed out that in light of an assessment of the talks in Paris and Washington, Egypt will devise an urgent diplomatic plan of action to find a just and permanent solution of the Middle East crisis. Ghali said that he will affirm to all the officials he will meet with in Paris and Washington that Egypt's position is defined by the following points:

1. All foreign forces, foremost of which are the Israeli occupation forces, must withdraw from Lebanon so that it will regain its complete sovereignty throughout the country and so that the legitimate Lebanese Government can begin reconstruction.

2. A just and comprehensive solution of the Middle East question can only be found through the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

Ghali said that Egypt believes that if a Jordanian-Palestinian agreement is reached on starting negotiations with Israel, this will give new momentum to the peace process and the future of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Egypt will then participate in these expanded negotiations to discuss the status of the West Bank and Gaza Strip during the transitional period and the future of the Palestinian territory.

Ghali today met with U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Alfred Atherton for 1 and 1/2 hours. Following the meeting, Ghali said that they discussed the topics he will review with U.S. officials, which focus on the Palestinian question and the Lebanese crisis. He said that he will emphasize Egypt's views that wasting time is not in the interest of peace and that the situation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip is being exacerbated as a result of Israel's behavior and that a quick move is mandatory to safeguard peace in the area.

Ghali is scheduled to leave Paris for New York on Thursday. On Friday, he will meet with a number of African heads of mission to the United Nations. On Saturday, he will meet with former U.S. President Jimmy Carter.

He will leave for Washington on Sunday for a 3-day visit, during which he will meet with Secretary of State George Shultz and a number of experts on African and Middle East affairs in the State Department to discuss the Namibia issue and the need for quick action for its independence, in view of the fact that the United States is one of the liaison group on Namibia's independence.

CAIRO QUOTES LEBANESE DAILY ON F-16 EMBARGO

NC030851 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 3 Apr 83

[From the press review]

[Text] In the Arab world, Arab newspapers are commenting on the U.S. Administration's decision recently announced by U.S. President Ronald Reagan to stop the supply of F-16 aircraft to Israel until its forces are withdrawn from Lebanon.

The [Lebanese] newspaper AN-NAHAR says: The decision is aimed at breaking the impasse that has befallen the Lebanese-Israeli negotiations. It is also an attempt to generate strong momentum for the Jordanian-Palestinian negotiations on President Reagan's plan and the future of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The paper believes that President Reagan's decision and his warning to Israel are similar to the warning which was addressed in 1956 to Israel by former U.S. President Eisenhower.

MUBARAK ENDS VISIT TO CHINA, LEAVES FOR DPRK

NC040542 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] President Husni Mubarak left the Chinese capital today for the DPRK in the course of his current Asian tour. During this tour President Mubarak will also visit Japan, Indonesia, and Pakistan.

WORLD BANK OFFERS $81.2 MILLION AGRICULTURAL LOAN

NC042308 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2218 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Washington, 4 Apr (MENA) -- The World Bank today offered Egypt an $81.2-million loan for agricultural industrialization in Egypt. Egyptian Ambassador in Washington Dr Ashraf Ghurbal signed the loan agreement for the Egyptian side. The loan will be used to finance the agricultural industrialization projects of the private sector through Egypt Bank, the Development Bank for Agricultural Credits, the Industrial Development Bank, and the National Bank for Development. The loan will be repaid over 20 years with a 5-year grace period and at 10 percent interest.

IRANIAN USE OF PROPOSED CEASE-FIRE VIEWED

JN051106 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0855 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Apr (INA) -- The newspaper ATH-THAWRAH says that stopping the gush of oil from the damaged Nowruz oilfield requires, before anything else, an agreement on a limited cease-fire.

In today's editorial, ATH-THAWRAH, the organ of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, says that this cease-fire should not give the Iranian regime opportunities which, according to the paper, Iraq has the right not to make available to the enemy. The paper stresses that this cease-fire should be synchronized with measures to ensure that the Iranian rulers do not benefit from the cease-fire for aggressive purposes.

ATH-THAWRAH goes on to say that, in the absence of such measures and commitments, the cease-fire, should it be observed, would give the enemy the opportunity to sail its armed vessels to its ports, to sweep the waterways in the Arab Gulf for naval mines, or to lift its sunken ships.

The paper affirms that the technical work necessary to stop the oil from gushing out of the Nowruz oilfield should be handled within the framework of the concerned international bodies, the United Nations, and the UN Security Council. The paper, meanwhile, stresses Iraq's concern with pollution of the Arab Gulf waters, adding that Iraq strongly believes that this problem should be handled in a sound, logical manner so it would not benefit one side of the conflict.

ATH-THAWRAH accuses the Iranian rulers of irresponsibly attempting to exploit this problem in their favor and of preventing regional and international quarters from tackling it. The paper points in this regard to Iranian Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi's statements to the effect that the pollution of the Gulf waters does not affect Iran, adding that Musavi believes that the problem is confined to the oil blowout and is not a matter of pollution concerning all the Arab Gulf states.

INTERIOR MINISTRY ON 5 APRIL EXPLOSION

JN050934 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0930 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Apr (INA) -- An Interior Ministry spokesman has stated that agents of the Iranian regime and their Arab allies perpetrated an act of sabotage near the Al-Hurriyah publishing house in Baghdad at dawn today. The spokesman said that the operation reflects the extent of despair engulfing the agent clique vis-a-vis the rallying of our Iraqi masses around the Ba'th Party and its great revolution.

COMMUNIQUE NO 1,049 ON IRANIAN BATTLE LOSSES

JN041539 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1515 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Apr (INA) -- The Iraqi forces killed 29 Iranians, destroyed 4 vehicles and 1 artillery piece, and captured 1 soldier. This was stated here this evening by Communique No 1,049, which added that the Iraqi forces today entered the 32d month of their confrontation of the Iranian aggression, feeling ever mightier and more self-confident. The communique said that today the Iranian enemy shelled Basra, Mandali, and Zurbatiyah, causing damage to some houses in Basra. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,049 issued by the Armed Forces General Command:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The war the rancorous Iranian regime imposed on our great people and pioneering revolution today enters its 32d month at a time when the heroic sons of our Armed Forces are tougher and stronger in confronting their enemies and in crushing all their aggressive attempts. The results of the activities carried out in the operational sectors yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units sighted and pounded small enemy groups opposite our positions in the central sector of the battefield, killing 18, wounding others, and destroying 3 vehicles and 1 106-mm artillery piece. A force belonging to one of our forward units managed to capture one of the enemy opposite our positions in the same sector. He was evacuated to the rear.

2. Our forward units pounded an enemy concentration opposite our positions east of Basra, killing nine and destroying one vehicle.

3. Two were killed in the nothern sector of the battlefield.

4. The vile Khomeyniite clique today shelled Basra, Mandali, and Zurbatiyah, damaging some houses in Basra.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 4 April 1983

INA CITES KURDISH ACTIVITIES, MOJAHEDIN CIRCULAR

JN041642 Baghdad INA in English 1535 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Paris, April 4, INA -- Kurdish rebels assisted by Mojahedin-e Khalq men have destroyed a major base for Khomeyni's revolutionary guards in the Kurdish region of Iran last week, according to a Mojahedin statement circulated here today.

"The rebels attacked the base near the town of Baneh on March 30, engaged in fierce battles with the revolutionary guards and then stormed and destroyed the base killing 15 guards and seizing large quantities of usable arms and ammunition" the statement said.

The statement noted that the people in both Baneh and the nearby Mahabad are in strike since March 23rd to protest against represssion by Khomeyni's guards.

"Several people were killed in Mahabad and 21 injured when the guards opened fire on protesting crowds in the town," the statement added.

PRESS STATEMENT ON JORDANIAN-PALESTINIAN TALKS

JN051210 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] The following press statement was issued in Amman today:

From 31 March until 5 April 1983, the Jordanian side led by His Majesty King Husayn and the Palestinian side led by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat held a series of meetings and contacts during which, on various levels, they discussed a number of topics pertinent to the developments in the Palestinian question and its present status, in a fraternal and constructive spirit, in extension to their previous discussions on this subject.

The two sides agreed to follow up the discussions upon 'Arafat's return to Amman soon.

AR-RA'Y ON RECENT AMMAN TALKS, DEVELOPMENTS

JN050739 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 5 Apr 83 pp 1, 20

[Text] The political affairs editor writes: The Jordanian-Palestinian talks enter their sixth consecutive day today amid speculation that the joint Jordanian-Palestinian statement will be issued this evening. The statement will put an end to the wagering in various quarters on the results of Yasir 'Arafat's talks with His Majesty King Husayn and the Jordanian officials during his longest and most important visit to Jordan. His Majesty King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat held a lengthy meeting yesterday, the fourth since the beginning of the visit last Thursday. Jordanian and Palestinian sources described the visit as important and crucial.

Palestinian sources said that "technical" reasons have impeded the issuance of the joint statement, which is expected to be released at the end of the visit today.

A small Jordanian-Palestinian committee met yesterday morning to work out the joint statement. The meeting, which lasted until 0100 today, was attended by Information Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, Interior Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat, Brigadier General 'Abd ar-Razzaq al-Yahya, and Dr Ahmad Sidqi ad-Dajani.

The PLO Executive Committee held two important meetings yesterday at the request of Yasir 'Arafat. Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu Mazin, and Jamal as-Surani were not present at the meeting as they are abroad. 'Arafat chaired the two meetings and discussions focused on developments in the West Bank, Jordanian-Palestinian relations, and the outcome of current contacts between the Jordanian and Palestinian sides. 'Arafat, at the second meeting, briefed the committee on the outcome of his talks with His Majesty King Husayn and ranking Jordanian officials.

At the end of the second meeting, the participants left with divergent views regarding the projected topics. 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar emerged from the meeting and made the following statement: "We are still committed to the Fes summit resolutions and to the PNC resolutions. The PLO's declared and well-known stance is: adherence to the Fes resolutions, as the minimum, for political action. We reject the Reagan plan because it is an attempt to implicate some Arab sides!"

He added: "We support the convening of a new Arab summit to safeguard the Fes resolutions and support the Arab plan. We oppose any formula for any implicit [min al-batin] representation of the Palestinian people."

Abu Mayzar said that the Jordanian-Palestinian talks are continuing, adding: "Had we reached a final agreement with the Jordanian side, we would have announced this." He said: "During the talks, we reiterated our adherence to the PNC resolutions, which reject giving any mandate or authorization!"

On Reagan's initiative, Abu Mayzar said: The Reagan plan is void of any positive elements. It is the successor of the Camp David plan because it ignores the right of the Palestinian people to repatriation, to self-determination, as well as to other vital rights. He dismissed the possibility of reconciling the Fes and Reagan plans because the two contradict each other, he added.

Abu Mayzar strongly rejected Resolution 242, stressing: We rejected Resolution 242 in the past. We reject it now and we will reject it in the future, because this resolution did not discuss the Palestinian issue and has ignored it completely!! This resolution, Abu Mayzar said, has also disavowed the Palestinian presence and dealt with the issue as being an issue over borders. He reiterated that the PLO Executive Committee and the PNC had rejected this resolution.

Abu Mayzar said that the Fes resolutions were a barrier against revolving in the orbit of the Reagan and Camp David plans!!!!

Abu Mayzar praised the Arab seven-member committee's tours, stressing that the USSR, PRC, and France have supported the Palestinian stand, but the British stand was less enthusiastic.

Abu Mayzar did not exclude the military option, adding that the Arabs should defend their honor, rights, and homeland.

On the U.S. position toward the PLO, Abu Mayzar demanded [talaba] that the United States recognize the PLO without any preconditions. Only then, he said, can we discuss the Reagan plan.

There was immediate reaction to Abu Mayzar's statements inside the PLO Executive Committee, which prompted Yasir 'Arafat to ask Dr Ahmad Sidqi ad-Dajani to release a counterstatement. The counterstatement, which was dictated by Ad-Dajani to 'Imad Shaqqur, 'Arafat's political adviser and the spokesman of the Palestinian side to the Higher Jordanian-Palestinian Committee, stipulates: The PLO Executive Committee has followed up the recent Arab move and the call for convening an urgent Arab summit conference, or a seven-member summit, according to circumstances and developments. The statement further added that the committee discussed the new status of Jordanian-Palestinian relations in light of the recent meetings with His Majesty King Husayn and ranking Jordanian officials. It has been agreed to continue the joint discussion of all matters pertinent to the special bilateral relations based on the PNC resolutions in Algiers.

Well-informed Palestinian sources have told AR-RA'Y that this statement expresses the official Palestinian viewpoint, whereas Abu Mayzar expressed his own personal viewpoint.

After the morning meeting, 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar said: It has transpired from the reports received by the PLO Executive Committee that the enemy's aim behind its inhumane practices is to create confusion and horror among the Palestinian people's ranks in the occupied territories. But this people's brave resistance has frustrated the enemy's objectives. He noted in this regard the Palestinian people's confrontation in the occupied territories of the autonomy and civil administration plans and the agent village leagues. He said that the Executive Committee adopted several measures and formed two committees, political and military, to follow up this issue. Abu Mayzar noted that the committee contacted the UN Security Council, the chairman of the nonaligned summit, and the Islamic Conference. He said that the committee will demand more positive stands from the Arab countries to confront this vicious Zionist onslaught.

Abu Mayzar said that the committee also discussed the conditions of prisoners in the Ansar detention camp and in Israeli prisons and adopted the necessary measures.

The committee reviewed the activities of international organizations in support of the Palestinian people, including the Athens conference, which will be held on 18 April.

PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum arrived in Amman from Damascus via Ar-Ramtha yesterday, accompanied by PLO Executive Committee members Muhammad Zuhdi an-Nashashibi, Tala Naji, 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, Ahmad al-Yamani, and Muhammad Khalifah. Al-Fahum, in a statement to PETRA upon arrival at Ar-Ramtha border post, said that he will attend the meetings of the PLO Executive Committee which have been called by Yasir 'Arafat. Al-Fahum expressed his pleasure at this visit, adding: We are in our country and among our brothers and kinfolk in Jordan.

Meanwhile, responsible Palestinian sources told AR-RA'Y that there is a clear-cut Jordanian understanding of the PNC resolutions.

Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, asserted that the Executive Committee has discussed three main topics: the situation in the occupied territories and the necessary measures to confront this situation, the relations with Jordan, and the talks with the Jordanian side, noting that the revision of the final statement on these talks has not yet been made. Al-Wazir said that the dangers which menace the Arab nation require an Arab summit to safeguard the Fes summit resolutions.

On the other hand, 'Imad Shaqqur told AR-RA'Y that the Palestinian side has discussed all the positive points in Reagan's plan. He stressed the need for giving more care and attention to the interior [occupied territories].

AR-RA'Y learned that a small Jordanian-Palestinian committee has been formed to discuss all disputed issues [al-qadaya al-khilafiyya] on the Jordanian-Palestinian arena.

Responsible Jordanian sources believe that the final statement would not make any reference to a final agreement on the issues that are under discussion, particularly the issue of joining the negotiations on the basis of the Reagan plan or the Fes plan. Rather, all matters will be referred to the new Fes summit which, according to reports arriving from Morocco and other Arab capitals, is scheduled for 16 April.

'ARAFAT DEPARTS AMMAN FOR KUWAIT 5 APRIL

LD050954 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0930 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] Amman, 5 Apr (KUNA) -- The leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization, Yasir 'Arafat, left here today for Kuwait after intensive talks with King Husayn of Jordan about efforts to resolve the Middle East crisis. No information is as yet available about the two sides reaching any agreement.

It has been reported here that the Higher Jordanian-Palestinian Committee will today continue its meetings to complete discussion of the issues before it.

In a statement he made on arrival in Kuwait, 'Arafat denied that there are obstacles in the way of agreement with Jordan "because from the start, we have been in agreement in good will." He said that the meetings of the Jordanian-Palestinian committee are continuing in Amman and that the joint statement about which he spoke previously will be issued at the end of the meetings.

KUNA has learned that 'Arafat will head the Fatah leaders' meeting to be held in Kuwait and that arrangements are being made for a meeting of the Fatah Central Committee in Kuwait. If held, this will be the second meeting by the Central Committee in Kuwait within 4 months. The Central Committee's first meeting there took place in January.

HUSAYN TO VISIT CAIRO AFTER MUBARAK'S RETURN

JN051126 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1123 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] Amman, 5 Apr (INA) -- It was learned here today that Jordanian King Husayn will visit Cairo after the return of Egyptian President Husni Mubarak to Cairo from his Asian tour. Political sources in Amman said that the Jordanian king will acquaint the Egyptian President with the outcome of his talks with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

AL-QASIM, U.S. CONGRESSMAN MEET 4 APRIL

JN041653 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim received Les Aspin, U.S. Democratic congressman and member of the House of Representatives' military committee, this morning. Al-Qasim explained to the guest the latest developments in the Middle East issue and the current situation in the region. The U.S. Ambassador in Amman attended the meeting.

PLO'S QADDUMI TO LEAVE AMMAN FOR BAGHDAD

JN050904 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 5 Apr 83 p 19

[Text] [PLO Executive Committee members] Faruq Qaddumi and 'Abd ar-Rahim Ahmad are due to leave Amman for Baghdad today. They were to leave last night, but their departure was postponed at 'Arafat's request. [Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic on 5 April on page 1 carries the same report, but adds that the two PLO officials will be returning from Baghdad today.]

AR-RA'Y VIEWS WEST BANK POISONING INCIDENTS

JN041600 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 4 Apr 83 pp 1, 17

[Editorial: "A Crime, Not an Epidemic"]

[Text] The Zionist news media are still insisting that the poisoning of hundreds of schoolgirls in the occupied West Bank resulted from a mysterious epidemic. These claims are part of a premeditated deceipt campaign aimed at acquitting the Zionist entity of its responsibility for an ugly crime unprecedented in human history.

The discovery of hundreds of new cases in Hebron, Tulkarm, and 'Anabta yesterday reveals that the criminal hand which concocted this crime has carefully and accurately planned it and programmed its implementation in first one place and then another and in one city and then another until it includes all the occupied Arab territories and until it achieves its final objective which is to sterilize the Arab women and prevent an increase in population so that the Jews will outnumber the Arabs and so that the Zionist entity's leaders can overcome the most serious problem facing them: the problem of the demographic structure in occupied Palestine.

By describing the discovery of the poisoning gases as a crime we are only calling things by their real names so that the world, which continues to hide its head in the sand, will know that an entity such as the Zionist entity, which has been based on crime since the beginning, cannot abandon its true nature or stop the war of annihilation it has been launching against the Palestinian Arab people for over 30 years.

It is a crime, not an epidemic, and it is a perfect crime in terms of planning, implementation, and objective. Anyone who gives it another name is either ignorant of the terrorist nature of the Zionist entity's leaders or an accomplice to the crime by refraining from exposing it or condemning its perpetrators.

It is a crime, not an epidemic. By continuing to ignore this crime and all the crimes that the Zionist slaughterers are commiting in broad daylight, the world public opinion is committing a larger crime against the Palestinian people and all mankind.

OMAN'S SULTAN QABUS LEAVES AMMAN 2 ARPIL

JN021034 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman and his accompanying delegation left Amman this morning after a 4-day official and private visit to Jordan. During this visit he held talks with His Majesty King Husayn and senior officials on developments in the region and strenghtening relations between the two fraternal countries in various spheres. His Majesty Sultan Qabus visited a number of military positions and cultural centers in the Kingdom.

His Majesty King Husayn; Prime Minister Mudar Badran; Chief of the Hashemite Royal Court Ahmad al-Lawzi; Court Minister 'Amir Khammash, Lieutenant General ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakr, commander in chief of the Armed Forces; the Omani ambassador to Jordan; and the embassy staff saw him off.

RADIO FREE LEBANON ON HADDAD 'UNDERSTANDING'

NC041958 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1945 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Informed sources have disclosed to Radio Free Lebanon that Lebanon has accepted the principle of joint patrols and managed to convince Israel of the possibility of its soldiers participating in patrols, provided that they move in Lebanese vehicles on which the Lebanese flag is hoisted. These sources also said that there is a Lebanese-Israeli understanding [tafahum] regarding Major Sa'd Haddad and his forces. These sources said that withdrawal by one party is now out of the question because the Israeli Cabinet has rejected it.

Further on Haddad Agreement

NC042306 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2245 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Radio Free Lebanon has received information that Lebanon has accepted the principle of joint patrols and managed to convince Israel of the possibility of its soldiers participating in patrols, provided that they move in Lebanese vehicles that hoist the Lebanese flag. As for Major Haddad and his soldiers, the information says that there is an agreement on both issues under consideration -- that the soldiers are Lebanese military men and Maj Haddad is a Lebanese officer who takes orders from the Lebanese authorities.

Voice of Hope

NC050652 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] A report broadcast over Radio Free Lebanon at 1945 last night says that Lebanon and Israel have reached an agreement on Major Sa'd Haddad's status. Under this agreement according to the report, he will assume the task of liaison officer between the Lebanese Army and the IDF provided that the forces under his command are stationed in southern Lebanon.

AL-WAZZAN CHAIRS MEETING ON 5 APR ISRAELI TALKS

NC041748 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Tonight's discussions at the meeting of the political room of the Republican Palace, which was held at 1700, concentrated on the proposed texts of the comprehensive solution. Moreover, the Lebanese delegation to the talks was provided with instructions and the official stances on the undecided points in the talks. The meeting, which was held at the political operations room, was chaired by Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan. It was attended by Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim, negotiations general coordinator Ambassador Ghassan Tuwayni, Dr Wadi' Haddad, and the Lebanese delegation to the negotiations, headed by Ambassador Antoine Fattal. The topics that will be studied in Khaldah tomorrow were discussed in light of new developments. It has been decided to limit the members of every delegation to the three committees to four -- two civilians and two military men -- with a view to accelerating the negotiations related to the security arrangements.

A responsible diplomatic source today said that the negotiations are proceeding in a serious manner. Although the officials prefer not to speak about progress in the negotiations in any of the clauses until a comprehensive agreement is reached, reports indicate that this week's meetings might be decisive.

EFFORT UNDERWAY TO ACCELERATE TALKS WTIH ISRAEL

NC042250 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Yesterday, on the eve of the 26th round of negotiations which will be held today [5 April] in Khaldah, a new method for negotiating with Israel was decided upon. This new method concentrates on intensifying the meetings and reducing the members of the delegations in order to accelerate the negotiations. During the 5-hour meeting of the political operations room that was held in the Republican Palace yesterday evening under Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and attended by the Lebanese negotiating team and Army commander General Ibrahim Tannus, the conferees read all the articles of the agreement in its various copies [musakh] and the ideas outlined therein according to the new negotiating method. The new method sets forth for discussion the articles of the agreement as one integrated and undivided entity without indulging in details that prevent visualization of the overlapping articles and their linkage.

Lebanon hopes that this new method will help demonstrate the progress that has been made on most points during the negotiations. Lebanon still proceeds from its basic stances to which it adheres and which guide its ideas. These stances are defined in two basic objectives.

1. To ensure complete Lebanese sovereignty [2] and a total Israeli withdrawal as a step toward the withdrawal of all non-Lebanese forces from Lebanon. Israel's concern is still focused on the way of guaranteeing Israel's security.

Four successive meetings will be held this week, two in Lebanon and two in Israel. Thus, the negotiations will be accelerated as a result of reducing the members and intensifying the talks.

NEGOTIATIONS TO IMPLEMENT NEW PROCEDURES

NC050757 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] The 26th round of the tripartite negotiations will be resumed in Khaldah today in accordance with a new procedure aimed at discussing the agenda clause by clause so as to reach a full text of an agreement after overcoming the obstacles which have prevented, and continue to prevent, a solution of the security problem in the south.

Today's negotiations will assume a new procedure in form and content. In form, the number of members of the 3 delegations has been reduced to 12, that is, 4 members to eac delegation.

The Lebanese side is represented by Dr Antoine Fattal, the head of the negotiating delegation and chairman of the committee on ending the state of war, Ambassador Ibrahim Kharma, the chairman of the mutual relations committee; Staff Brigadier General 'Abbas Hamdan, the chairman of the committee on withdrawals; and Colonel Munir Ruhayyim, the chariman of the committee on security arrangements.

SALIM BRIEFS ARAB ENVOYS ON TRIPARTITE TALKS

NC050926 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] Within the framework of the diplomatic move which Lebanon has embarked upon concerning the negotiations and withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon, at 1010 today Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim met with heads of the Arab diplomatic missions accredited to Lebanon.

The meeting was attended by the ambassadors of Kuwait, Morocco, Tunisia, and the charges d'affaires of Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Jordan, Iraq, YAR, PDRY, and Libya.

Minister Salim briefed the Arab envoys on the atmosphere of the tripartite negotiations and the government's moves concerning the next phase.

NEGOTIATION DELEGATIONS ARRIVE IN KHALDAH 5 APR

NC050924 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0906 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Report by Lebanese Information Ministry mission in Khaldah -- live]

[Text] At 1035 Ambassador Morris Draper arrived, heading the U.S. delegation. About 15 minutes later he was followed by head of the Lebanese delegation Dr Antoine Fattal. Two Lebanese officers, members of the negotiating delegation staff Brigadier General Abbas Hamdan and Staff Colonel Munir Ruhayyim, had arrived earlier. About 3 minutes ago the Israeli delegation led by David Kimche arrived accompanied by a group of generals.

The three delegations went up to the second floor of the Lebanon Beach Hotel. The talks are due to begin in a few moments.

IDF ROADBLOCK DELAYS START OF NEGOTIATIONS

NC051220 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] The 26th round of tripartite negotiations started at noon today after more than 1 hour delay because of the traffic obstruction caused by the Israeli roadblock in Al-Awza'i. This led head of the Lebanese delegation Dr Antoine Fattal to present a protest on his arrival at the meeting place in Khaldah.

Dr Fattal told the Information Ministry mission that the situation will be resolved and that the appropriate Israeli authorities will instruct the soldiers manning the roadblock to end the obstruction.

Answering a question, Dr Fattal said that the discussions at today's session will deal with the security and political subjects.

Political sources have said that today's negotiations will assume a new procedure in form -- reducing the number of the three delegations to 12 -- and in content -- moving to discuss a draft of a comprehensive agreement after the delegations have studied the agenda clause by clause.

MEETINGS IN KHALDAH REPORTEDLY CONTINUING

NC051236 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1140 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Report by Lebanese Information Ministry delegation in Khaldah -- live]

[Text] Since 1103 the three delegations have been meeting in a plenary session.

Sources of the conferees indicate that the committees on ending the state of war, mutual relations, security arrangements, and withdrawals and guarantees, are reading out at this meeting the draft of the general agreement which includes reservations over some points by the Lebanese and Israeli sides.

Asked why the delegations have been limited to four, Dr Fattal said: So that we can hold an informal meeting and speed up the discussions. The meeting on Thursday will be a plenary one. About today's discussions, he said they will deal with almost everything.

On the reported convening of intensive meetings, including tomorrow's meeting here in Khaldah, Dr Fattal said that this matter will be decided upon today and that there is nothing official as yet. In this respect he said: I rule out that the meetings will be held over a period of 4 days.

The reports indicated that there will be four successive sessions, two of them in Khaldah and two in Qiryat Shemona.

The three delegations are still meeting at this moment. We will provide you with new developments as available.

Delegations Recess

NC051300 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1223 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Report by Lebanese Information Ministry delegation in Khaldah -- live]

[Text] About 10 minutes ago, official Lebanese spokesman Dr Dawud as-Sayigh came out at the end of the tripartite meeting which started at 1105, to say that the delegations concluded their first meeting and that they will hold another meeting after lunch. The first meeting was devoted to discussing the question of security arrangements. The official Lebanese spokesman added nothing to this statement.

Therefore, nothing significant came from the first session. Should there be anything important at the second session this afternoon, we will provide you with the details as available.

AL-JUMAYYIL INSPECTS ARMY POSITIONS IN BEIRUT

NC050713 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] At 2300 last night, President of the Republic Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil made a field tour of the Lebanese Army positions in the southern suburbs. He started his tour by inspecting Burj al-Barajinah. The president was accompanied by Army Commander Brigadier General Ibrahim Tannus and the ministers of public works and communications, Pierre al-Khuri and George Afram respectively.

AS-SAFIR SAYS SALIM NOTIFIED SYRIA ADF DISBANDED

NC041340 Beirut AS-SAFIR in Arabic 2 Apr 83 p 2

[Text] Diplomatic sources say that Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim has sent a letter to his Syrian counterpart, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, connected with the future of the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF].

The same sources say that in his letter, Salim notifies Khaddam that the services of the ADF establishment in Lebanon have been officially dispensed with.

AL-ASAD, PFLP'S HABASH MEET, DISCUSS PROBLEMS

JN041323 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1315 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] At 1200 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received PFLP Secretary General Dr George Habash and Deputy Secretary Abu 'Ali Mustafa.

The discussion dealt with the current situation in the region, the complicated circumstances through which the Palestinian cause is passing, and the need to confront Zionist-imperialist conspiracies aimed at liquidating the Palestinian cause and imposing a capitulatory settlement at the expense of the Palestinian people's inalienable rights.

MARITIME NAVIGATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH USSR

JN042029 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1915 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Damascus, 4 Apr (SANA) -- A maritime navigation agreement between the Syrian Arab Republic and the USSR was signed at the Transport Ministry building here today.

Signing the agreement on the Syrian side was Transport Minister Yunis Muhammad and on the USSR side Timofey Borisovich Guzhenko, USSR minister of the maritime fleet, and in the presence of representatives of the Foreign Ministry. The members of the Syrian and USSR delegations, the USSR ambassador in Damascus, and the embassy staff.

Speaking on this occasion, Transport Minister Yunis Muhammad spoke highly of the friendship and cooperation between Syria and the USSR which have existed for 25 years and have borne fruit in the interests of the two friendly peoples and countries in various spheres, particularly in the resistance of imperialism and Zionism. These relations developed and were crowned by the signing of the Syrian-Soviet friendship and cooperation treaty in 1980.

The transport minister added: This agreement we have signed today is an indication of the friendship that we are sincerely trying to strengthen in various spheres according to the directions of President Hafiz al-asad, secretary general of the Ba'th Party and president of the republic.

Concluding, the minister underlined the need to further promote bilateral cooperation to serve the interests of the two friendly peoples. He extended thanks to all those who participated in the preparations for this agreement.

Mr Guzhenko then delivered a speech in which he described the signing of the maritime agreement between Syria and the USSR as an important document to develop the friendly bilateral relations. He said that our relations are continuously developing, thanks to the treaty of friendship and cooperation signed at the highest levels between the Syrian Arab Republic and the USSR. This agreement, he added, will contribute to further bolstering the (?development) in Syria.

In conclusion, the USSR minister stressed that his country will offer aid and support to Syria in all fields, particularly in transportation and maritime navigation. He wished the Syrian Arab people continued progress, prosperity, and success in different areas.

The signing of the navigation agreement came as a result of previous negotiations. This agreement will encourage the two countries' ships to contribute further to the commercial maritime navigational operations. According to this 2-year agreement, which will be renewed automatically, the two sides will enjoy most-favored-nation status in commercial navigation.

NICARAGUAN DELEGATION LEAVES DAMASCUS 4 APRIL

JN041414 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1320 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Damascus, 4 Apr (SANA) -- The Nicaraguan state and party delegation led by Brigadier General Victor Lopez, member of the national command of the Nicaraguan Sandinist National Liberation Front, left Damascus this afternoon following a several-day visit to the country.

The delegation was seen off by General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces and minister of defense, and several ranking Army officers.

PALESTINE BROADCAST RAPS U.S. ON POISONING

JN042034 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Palestine broadcast: from "On the Events" program]

[Text] Brothers on the road to revolution and liberation: The poison which the Zionists are injecting into the West Bank water is only part of the U.S. design to impose the capitulatory settlement aimed at liquidating the Palestinian issue. It is also part of the repetitive calls to save what can be saved before it is too late, voiced by those who support Reagan's plan and the idea of authorizing the Jordanian Government to negotiate on behalf of the Palestinians with the malicious Zionists and imperialists.

The poison the Zionists are injecting into West Bank water is the same type which Reagan injected into his plan and the same type injected into the U.S. diplomacy and activities in the region. Therefore we say that the United States is as equally responsible as Begin's criminal government for the genocide practiced by the Zionists in the occupied land. The U.S. and Israeli sides are partners in this responsibility and therefore any reply to these vile crimes must be dealt to both sides.

The United States, which is the champion of the Zionist aggressors and their partner in the invasion and annhilation designs, must not remain beyond the reach of our people and their strugglers. It is the responsibility of our people's strugglers to defend their masses in the occupied land using all means and methods whatsoever. Washington must realize that its crimes and the crimes of its Zionist agents cannot go unpunished and that the will of the Palestinian people, who are determined to live in freedom, is too strong to be harmed by the crimes of the United States and its Zionist agents.

HAWATIMAH URGES PLO-HUSAYN AGREEMENT

JN031925 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Palestine broadcast: from "On the Events" program]

[Text] Brothers on the road to revolution and liberation: Comrade Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, has disclosed a warning to the PLO that it must provide Jordan with the opportunity of negotiating on its behalf. Comrade Hawatimah said that the imperialist warning which the PLO received contains the threat of a new Israeli aggression if the PLO does not provide King Husayn with a positive reply. He said that this course is a new imperialist attempt to give momentum to Reagan's plan.

This warning means the following: First, the settlement plan the Jordanian regime is being asked to join is an imperialist-Zionist plan that denies and contradicts the rights of the Palestinian people and Arab nation.

It is therefore logical for our masses to insist on rejecting this settlement and Jordan's participation it it, either on its own or on the PLO's behalf because such participation constitutes a violation of Arab rights and treachery to the pan-Arab issue in Palestine.

Second, the threat of aggression does not scare us. Furthermore, the Zionist threat of aggression and the threats of Arab reactionaries to seize the Palestinian people's right of representation and give it to parties other than the PLO are the same and are supplemented by the terrorist Zionist practices into various forms of harming Arab citizens in the occupied land. All these stances and threats clearly express attempts to defeat the will of Arab steadfastness.

Third, these circumstances reaffirm that armed struggle and the deepening of our defensive capability and our ability to stand fast on the battlefield are the only means of defeating the imperialist-Zionist schemes. They also reaffirm that the Syrian-Palestinian alliance is the sound, strong basis needed to achieve this.

HUSAYN-MUBARAK-QABUS PARLEY IN JORDAN VIEWED

JN012005 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Palestine broadcast: from "With the Events" program]

[Text] Diplomatic and press circles have disclosed a tripartite meeting that comprised King Husayn, Husni Mubarak, and Sultan Qabus. This meeting took place in Aqaba, Jordan, during which they discussed the steps to be taken by the Jordanian authorities concerning the negotiations between the Jordanian Government and Israel under the auspices of the United States.

Observers in the Jordanian capital said that the Aqaba meeting was supported by Arab states that the West calls moderates. These are the reactionary Arab states which have special ties with the United States, which in turn puts pressure on Jordan and the PLO to join Camp David. These circles said that Husni Mubarak promised King Husayn to provide all possible military support for the Jordanian regime to confront any eruption of the popular opposition against it, especially since reactionary circles expect such opposition if the Jordanian Government holds negotiations on behalf of the Palestinians. These sources say that the Jordanian regime believes it can ignore the PLO as long as the reactionary Arab states support negotiations based on the Reagan initiative, which ruled out the PLO.

It is obvious that contacts and meetings between King Husayn and Husni Mubarak did not stop in the past and that Sultan Qabus of Oman has prepared for these meetings as a partner in the plans which are aimed at enabling U.S. imperialism to impose hegemony over the region.

It is known that the Omani Sultan granted the U.S. Rapid Deployment Forces facilities and bases in Oman just as the ruling regime in Egypt granted them facilities on the Ra's Banas base and in Sinai. The Jordanian regime also held joint maneuvers between its forces and the U.S. forces after the pattern of the joint maneuvers of the Egyptian and U.S. forces. This means that the sole obstacle for the Jordanian regime to enter direct negotiations with the enemy is its fear of the impact of this step on the challenge to the sons of the Palestinian people and the sons of the Jordanian people.

Regarding the Palestinians, this step constitutes aggression against the PLO's powers and rights as sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and shows collusion in the design aimed at liquidating the sacred Palestin question a fact that will lead to an explosion in the face of the Joranian regime if it adopts such a step.

The sons of our people in Jordan reject any step to relinquish the Arab rights in Palestine. The U.S.-Zionist peace plan requires normalization of relations between Jordan and Israel. This means that the doors of the east bank will be opened to Zionist infiltration.

The alleged peace progress is a deal in which the Jordanian regime will assume the responsibility for oppressing the Arabs in the West Bank and Gaza in return for enabling Israeli to infiltrate the east bank of Jordan and impose economic hegemony on it with all the inherent dangers of Israel's expansionist design in the region.

SYRIAN BA'TH PARTY, KKE ISSUE STATEMENT 2 APRIL

JN021601 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1430 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] Damascus, 2 Apr (SANA) -- The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the Greek Communist Party [KKE] today condemned the Israeli aggression on Lebanon with the support of U.S. imperialism and the subsequent terrorist exercises, mass killings, and savage massacres, which in their ugliness, go far beyond all crimes committed by fascism and Nazism against peaceful citizens.

In a statement issued in both Damascus and Athens today at the end of a 27-30 March visit to Athens by the Ba'th Party delegation under Comrade Rashid 'Qrini, Ba'th Party Central Committee member, the two parties called for an immediate and unconditional withdrawal from Lebanon by the invading Israeli forces and confirmed their support for Lebanon's independence, sovereignty, unity, and the safety of its territories.

The two sides emphasized their condemnation of the Camp David accords, the accords' traitorous methods, all the imperialist-Zionist attempts to impose them on the other Arab countries, and the capitulatory plans, including Reagan's initiative. The sides also condemned all the Israeli and U.S. imperialist threats against Syria and their preparations for a premediated attack on it, stressing Syria's right to strengthen its defensive capabilities to confront imperialism and Zionism, which are hostile to the Arab nation.

The two sides reiterated that a just and lasting peace in the Middle East cannot be achieved without a complete withdrawal from all the Arab territories occupied since 1967 and recognition of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian Arab people.

The sides also reviewed the situation in Cyprus and the phases through which the Cypriot problem has passed, affirming their solidarity with and support for the Cypriot people's struggle to solve the Cypriot problem, based on UN resolutions and for the sake of a unified, independent Cyprus with complete soveriegnty over all its regional territories and free from all foreign military bases and forces.

The two sides also expressed satisfaction with the existing deep friendship and cooperation between their respective parties and countries, affirming that they will continue to develop them to serve the interests of their parties, countries, and peoples. Within this framework, a joint cooperation agreement was signed between the two parties for the years 1983 and 1984.

U.S. 'ZIONIST DESIGNS' ON SYRIA CONDEMNED

JN012138 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Palestine broadcast: From "Abu Salim's Talks" program]

[Text] We should take a serious firm stand toward Zionist and U.S. threats against Syria, especially after the U.S. secretary of defense said a few days ago that Israel

is a strategic base for the United States and that the U.S. forces in Lebanon, the Mediterranean, and other parts in the Arab world, namely, the U.S. Marines, are coordinating perfectly with the Zionist forces.

The U.S. secretary of defense's statement, at a time when the United States is conducting negotiations with the Lebanese authorities and the Zionists, is a very frank U.S. statement and a slap in the face for those trying to delude people into believing that the Americans could be a mediator and put pressure on the Zionists to make them withdraw from Lebanon, or that there are differences between the United States and the Zionists. Such talk is a stronger slap to those who anticipate that the United States will pressure the Zionists to withdraw from Lebanon and prove U.S. credibility which, they say, will encourage these people to enter negotiations with the Zionists and the United States -- negotiations based on the implementation of Reagan's initiative to liquidate the Palestine question, as if they do not know U.S. intentions and designs in the region.

What more proof do we need to know the peace the Americans want in the region? They voiced their challenge to the United Nations particularly the Arabs and the Lebanese. The U.S. secretary of defense said that U.S. forces are present in the region in coordination with the Zionist forces. This means that their presence is aimed at supporting Zionist forces and all Zionist stands. The statement of the U.S. secretary of defense constitutes a direct U.S. threat to Syria, which is also being threatened by the Zionists. By this, the United States means that it supports the Zionists and that the Arabs should yield to all the Zionist conditions and demands.

The United States wants the Arabs to capitulate. It is not prepared to accept any Arab view on its conditions and designs. The United States has a military presence in the region as a party in the state of war and conflict which exists between us and the Zionists. All the methods adopted by the Zionists were in coordination with the United States. What made the United States disclose its intention at a time when it is trying to give people the impression that only the Zionists are able to subjugate the Arab region and impose U.S. hegemony on it? It fears any change of the present realities. It fears that its achievements will collapse as a result of changes in the region made by an effective move by the national and progressive forces. It wants to settle matters by exploiting the present realities.

The U.S. stand has disclosed the lies and allegations of all the people who say that the United States might help or respect Arab will. It also disclosed the lies of all the people who try to delude us into believing that safety, security, and guarantees lie in capitulating to the United States. We should stand firmly in the face of the U.S. and Zionist fortress in the region. Subjugation of Syria will open the door for hegemony over the region and for U.S. supporters to carry out U.S. and Zionist designs in the region.

Syria is ready to assume its responsibilities and all the national and progressive forces in the region should support it to deprive the United States, the Zionists, and their followers in the region of their initiative.

SCHIFFER REPORTS ON RECENT CONTACTS WITH U.S.

TA050544 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer -- live in the studio]

[Text] One can hardly call the contacts held over the last few days between U.S. representatives and Israeli personalities a coordination of positions. The differences of opinion and disparity of views have remained as they were on nearly all issues that were raised for discussion. As we have heard, there were exchanges of messages this past weekend between U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and his Israeli counterpart, Yitzhaq Shamir. Once again Shultz asked Israel to show flexibility in its positions regarding an arrangement in Lebanon. With a little bit of imagination and goodwill, Shultz wrote, it would be possible to overcome the problems that have remained unresolved in the negotiations on the arrangements in Lebanon.

In his response, the foreign minister explained to his U.S. counterpart the gravity with which Israel views the Soviet threat addressed to it, but he also emphasized that the warning is addressed to more than Israel, it is directed at the United States. Reacting U.S. Administration officials consequently rushed to explain to Israel that the Soviet threats prove the need for a swift arrangement to be found for the problem of Lebanon.

Another issue which will most likely arouse a lot of ripples and reverberations: What was Yitzhaq Shamir told during his last visit to the United States about the supply of the F-16 aircraft to Israel? In a meeting held a few days ago between the acting ambassador in Washington, Binyamin Netanyahu, and U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Kenneth Dam together with Philip Habib, the former was told that Israel should not act surprised and react sharply to President Reagan's announcement that the supply of the F-16's would be held up until the IDF leaves Lebanon, since statements to this effect had already been made to Yitzhaq Shamir when he was in the United States.

Political elements in Jerusalem have already reacted to this by saying: This is not true. They said that Shamir fully comprehended what he was told, and George Shultz said that no decision had yet been made regarding the aircraft, adding that the administration was studying the matter but was inclined to go ahead and supply the aircraft. The Washington administration heads, however, think differently.

Jerusalem regards Philip Habib's participation in that meeting as a signal to Israel, intimating: If you do not behave the way the United States expects you to, you will not get the military aid promised to you. The Arab world, meanwhile, is being signaled: Look who is master here, there is someone to rely on.

Finally, for the moment the United States will not cooperate with Israel in building the Lavi aircraft. In a report sent on this to Defense Minister Moshe Arens and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, Binyamin Netanyahu wrote that he was told that George Shultz wished to first study the matter, and only then would he recommend a course of action. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger has already expressed his opposition to this, so Jerusalem will have to wait awhile and conduct the planning process without the Americans. All these issues will be broached at a Cabinet session tomorrow, which will be held in the middle of the week this time because of the Passover.

AGREEMENT WITH LEBANON ON HADDAD REPORTED

TA041810 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1807 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Here is a report we received just a few minutes ago: Radio Free Lebanon announced a few minutes ago that Israel and Lebanon have reached an agreement [heskem] on Major Sa'd Haddad's status. He will serve as a liaison officer between the Lebanese Army and the IDF, and his forces will be stationed in southern Lebanon. This report was brought in by our monitor, Mikha'el Gurdus.

'Understanding' Denied

TA050740 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 5 Apr 83 p 1

[Text] Last night political circles in Jerusalem denied a report that had been broadcast by Radio Free Lebanon saying that an understanding had been achieved between Israel and Lebanon over Major Haddad's status. The political circles recalled that in the last round of talks in Qiryat Shemona the question of Haddad's status had not been raised at all. They added that this issue had also not been discussed recently in any other framework and so "this is not true."

This morning there will be an informal meeting in Khaldah between the delegations of Israel and Lebanon at which the security arrangements in southern Lebanon and the framework of relations between the two countries (normalization) will be discussed.

UNIFIL SPOKESMAN ON INCIDENT WITH NORWEGIANS

TA041618 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] The UNIFIL spokesman has said that armed men confiscated the arms possessed by six Norwegian troops near Marj 'Uyun and stole their car. He said one of the Norwegian soldiers was slightly wounded by shrapnel from the shots fired by the assailants. Five of the armed men wore khaki, while two others were dressed in civilian clothes.

The UNIFIL spokesman pointed out that the incident actually occurred on Friday, but that yesterday, following contacts with Major Haddad, the truck was handed back, but had been repainted from white to green. The arms were not returned. Tension has prevailed in southern Lebanon between the local inhabitants and the UN personnel ever since a physician from the village of Yurun was murdered by shots fired by Fijian soldiers.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: SUSPEND LEBANON TALKS

TA050921 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 5 Apr 83

[From the review of midday press editorials]

[Text] YEDI'OT AHARONOT suggests that the Cabinet suspend the talks with the Lebanese representatives in Khaldah and Qiryat Shemona until the United States stops pressuring us. The newspaper writes that even after all the concessions Israel has made, the Lebanese Government is digging in its positions. Even when the Lebanese Government is prepared to compromise, the United States persuades it to hang on to its positions.

USSR SUPPLYING SYRIA WITH LONGER-RANGE KATYUSHAS

TA050725 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 5 Apr 83 p 1

[Report by the military correspondent]

[Text] Among the weapons that the Soviet Union is supplying to Syria, and possibly will supply the terrorists in the future, are the most modern Katyushas, BM-27, whose firing range is more than 40 km. This has been reported by reliable sources.

These details were recently disclosed within the framework of the talks Israel is holding with Lebanon and the United States about the security arrangements in southern Lebanon. One of the disputed issues in these talks is the breadth of the security strip. While Israel is demanding a strip of 40 km, the Lebanese are demanding a strip of 20 km. In connection with this argument, representatives of Israel have said they must also insist on the range of the area because the Soviet Union will now be supplying this Katyusha whose firing range is about 43 km.

Military observers have said that even if a broader security strip is agreed upon, this does not mean there will not be firing from ranges of greater distance at Israel.

DEFENSE MINISTER APPOINTS PERSONAL STAFF

TA050549 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens has given instructions on the establishment of his personal staff, including 10 officers and civilian experts. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal has learned that the openings for the staff command members will be taken from the national security unit.

Our correspondent notes that the duties of Major General Avraham Tamir in the Lebanon negotiations will gradually be transferred to Brigadier General Menahem 'Eynan. 'Eynan was an IDF commander in Lebanon. Maj Gen Tamir will eventually retire from the Defense Ministry. Minister Arens has also asked MK Yig'al Kohen-Orgad to review the defense budget and to advise him on some matters, including the Lavi development budget.

PERES LEAVES FOR SPAIN, TO MEET GONZALEZ

TA031829 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] Labor Party Chairman MK Shim'on Peres left for Madrid this morning to meet with Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez. Upon departing, Peres said that when they meet he will discuss the diplomatic relations between Madrid and Jerusalem and the ties between the Spanish Socialist Party and the Israeli Labor Party. Peres said he also wants to coordinate positions with the Spanish prime minister in anticipation of the Socialist International conference which will open in Lisbon, Portugal at the end of the week.

Arrives in Spain

For Madrid EFE and radio coverage of Shimon Peres' visit to Spain, see the Spain section of the 4 April Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

AUSTRIAN SOURCE SAYS POW TALKS AT DELICATE STAGE

TA011004 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 1 Apr 83 p 1

[Text] "The mediation talks of the Austrian envoy for exchanging prisoners are at a delicate stage, and any release of details can only increase the difficulties and add more obstacles," a senior Austrian source said in a telephone call with the DAVAR correspondent yesterday.

The source mentioned that when Dr Herbert Amry left for this stage of his Middle East mission on behalf of Chancellor Kreisky, the chancellor said he would remain in the region until a breakthrough is achieved.

Dr Herbert Amry, who is the head of the chancellor's bureau, served in the past as the Austrian ambassador to Beirut for 3 years. Kreisky gave up his aid as head of bureau despite the fact that his election campaign is at its height in order to take care of this humanitarian mission, according to Austrian tradition, and "one should not undermine the chances of success by leaks," the source said.

Dr Amry is moving between the various elements in the region and his location during the various stages of the trip is kept secret. The feeling is one of being on the eve of dissolving the deadlock.

The AP news agency reports that "the Austrian embassies in the Middle East countries were ordered not to divulge any details to journalists." According to the agency a senior Austrian diplomat said that there were several "planted reports" on this issue. He nevertheless said that progress was achieved in the talks on the exchange of prisoners.

The senior Austrian source who talked with the DAVAR reporter said that he cannot confirm any report released on the movements of Dr Amry, and that even if there is ground for cautious optimism it should be remembered that difficulties remain and that they must be overcome in talks with all elements concerned.

WHO DELEGATION ARRIVES TO PROBE POISONINGS

TA050718 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] Two physicians from the WHO have come to Israel to investigate the reason for the hospitalization of the schoolgirls in the territories. Our correspondent Elihu Ben-On points out that they had been invited by the director-general of the Health Ministry in order to draw up an independent report on the affair.

Two other doctors from the U.S. Center for Disease Control have already met with physicians and patients in the Janin and Tulkarm hospitals. They receive full aid from the medical teams in Israel.

ARRESTS IN 'POISONING' AFFAIR REPORTED

TA050924 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 5 Apr 83 p 3

[Report by Yosef Tzuri'el]

[Excerpt] Security elements have arrested several inhabitants of the Hebron hills and Samaria area on suspicion of having directed the "poisoning" of the female students and driving them to the hospitals in an organized way. The security elements refrained from reporting the number of arrests, but it has been reported that the figure is "large."

BEGIN'S OFFICE: POISONING REPORTS 'BLOOD LIBEL'

TA050536 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] The prime minister's office has called the reports on the poisoning of inhabitants of the territories a blood libel against Israel. The only reaction to such charges is nausea, members of the prime minister's office staff said.

U.S. TV CREWMEN ARRESTED; CHARGES DENIED

TA041333 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Police sources have confirmed that two U.S. television crewmen were detained for 24 hours on suspicion that they staged a poisoning in Nabulus. Authoritative sources have told us that the arrest was carried out on instructions from the commander of the Central Command. The two, from CBS and NBC, were interrogated on charges that in collaboration with Nabulus residents, they filmed fake poisonings in the town hospital and later also filmed the accompanying symptoms.

The heads of the two U.S. networks in Israel have talked to the AP correspondent in Tel Aviv and strongly denied the allegations that their correspondents staged the poisoning. The head of the CBS Bureau, (Warren Lewis), said that the photographer Moshe Ben-Dor and voice technician Avishay Deqel were arrested in the Nabulus hospital while filming clips there with the hospital authorities' approval. The head of the NBC Bureau, (Paul Miller), said that the charges on staging the film strip are ludicrous. He said that the IDF soldiers tried to prevent the NBC crew from entering the hospital, but following an argument the crewmen nonetheless entered the hospital. He denied reports that some of his men were arrested.

IDF Spokesman on Incident

TA050615 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2200 GMT 4 Apr 83

["ITIM Is Herewith Transmitting the IDF Spokesman's Announcement" -- ITIM headline]

[Text] [No dateline as received] In an investigation of the incident [where schoolgirls were filmed in a Nabulus hospital after alleged poisoning], two television crewmen were arrested in the (Al-Awsani) Hospital on 4 April. It transpires that during a routine visit by members of the military government to the hospital grounds, groaning and moaning could be heard coming from the hospital's second floor. Upon arriving there, the team found a TV crew filming the girls in the hospital groaning and moaning. Two local doctors were also in the room, standing by the girls' beds. As soon as the government people entered the room, the groaning and moaning suddenly stopped and the sick "were miraculously healed." When the "girls became healthy" again, the crewmen stopped filming. The border police officer who was there together with the supervisory team asked the TV crewmen to follow him to the local police station to testify, as he suspected the incident was staged and the girls were only faking the groaning and moaning when they spotted the TV crew. Toward evening, when the evidence had been collected at the police station, the two were released on instructions from the commander of the Central Command and the police are continuing to investigate the incident.

PETITION AGAINST AWARDING LEBANON WAR RIBBON

TA041824 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] A few hundred reserve soldiers who had participated in the Lebanon war have already signed a petition protesting the awarding of the war ribbon.

This petition will be submitted to the Cabinet on Independence Day [18 April]. Our correspondent Shalom Oren reports that signatures are still being collected all over the country, including in the northern settlements. The petition says that the Lebanon war was not without alternatives, and that the ribbons should not be awarded before that war is over. At the same time, the signatories of the petition have emphasized that they would accept the ribbon if they are given specific orders to do so, just as they observe a call-up order.

DISTURBANCES REPORTED IN WEST BANK 4 APRIL

TA042106 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Two Jewish passersby were injured this afternoon in the old city of Jerusalem. Five Arabs attacked them and, among other things, used a sharp-edged tool. One of the Jews was hurt in the head.

A bus was stoned in the Shu'fat neighborhood this evening. Four Israelis were hurt by stones thrown at them in Qalqilyah today, and the windshields of eight Israeli cars were smashed in that town. A curfew was imposed on Qalqilyah during the day, and it was only lifted at sunset.

More Incidents Reported

TA042110 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2105 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Tulkarm, 4 Apr (ITIM) -- Three Molotov cocktails were thrown this evening at IDF forces in Samaria. The identity of the people who threw them is unknown, but they hit no one.

The ITIM correspondent in Judaea and Samaria reports that unidentified people hurled two Molotov cocktails at the guard of the (Sabri) camp near Tulkarm. They exploded, but did not hit anyone. The security forces imposed a curfew on a refugee camp nearby and began searching the area.

About an hour later, unidentified persons threw a Molotov cocktail at soldiers on patrol in the Al-Jalazun refugee camp. It exploded, but no one was hurt. The IDF imposed a temporary curfew on the camp and launched a search.

Jericho 5 April Incidents

TA050545 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Molotov cocktails were hurled at security personnel in the territories last night and this morning. No one was hurt. This morning three Molotov cocktails were thrown at the Jericho police building.

ALGERIA

REPORTAGE ON VISIT BY MOROCCAN INTERIOR MINISTER

Bendjedid Receives Minister

LD031047 Algiers APS in English 1000 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] Algiers, 3/4/83 (APS) -- President Chadli Bendjedid, FLN secretary general, received yesterday Mr Driss Basri, Moroccan interior minister who started three days ago a work visit.

In the evening Mr Basri left Algiers. He was seen by Mr Hadj Yala, home minister, Politburo member.

Press Statement Issued

LD030310 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] An Algerian-Moroccan press statement was issued yesterday evening, Saturday, following the working visit Driss Basri, the Moroccan minister of interior, made to Algeria from 30 March to 2 April. The statement was signed by M'hamed Hadj Yala, member of the Political Bureau and minister of interior, and Driss Basri, Morocco's minister of interior. The signing ceremony was attended by Hedi Khediri, member of the Central Committee and director general of the National Security Directorate General, and Hamid Bukhari, director general of Moroccan national security, as well as by the members of the two countries' delegations.

Here is the text of the press statement:

Driss Basri, His Majesty King Hassan II's minister of interior, paid a working visit to Algeria from 30 March to 2 April 1983 within the framework of the historic meeting which took place on 26 February 1983 between His Majesty King Hassan II, the king of Morocco, and Chadli Bendjedid, his excellency the president of the Algeria and secretary general of the FLN.

During his stay Driss Basri was received by His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid. He was also received by Raba Bitat, speaker of the National People's Assembly and member of the FLN Political Bureau; by Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, prime minister and member of the FLN Political Bureau; by Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Political Bureau and official in charge of the Permament Secretariat of the FLN Central Committee; and by Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, minister of foreign affairs and member of the FLN Political Bureau.

Driss Basri held talks with his Algerian counterpart M'hamed Yala which were characterized by understanding, frankness, and fraternity. The members of the two countries' delegations, which included senior officials representing various ministries in the two states, joined the meeting later. During these meetings -- in accordance with the will and instructions of His Majesty King Hassan II and His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid, Driss Basri and M'hamed Yala profoundly studied the current situation in the area and searched for ways and means to lift the barriers still obstructing the building of the greater Arab Maghreb, the Arab Maghreb -- which is united, which is in solidarity, and which has never ceased to manifest the aspirations of all the nations of the Arab Maghreb.

Thus, the work of the Moroccan and Algerian delegations under the chairmanship of Driss Basri and M'hamed Yala particularly considered the need to relentlessly work to restore the ties of confidence and solidarity between the two countries on the basis of proper, sound foundations which will bring peace and social progress to the Arab Maghreb in an atmosphere of amity -- an atmosphere which dominates all the people of the Arab Maghreb, who genuinely complement one another economically and who have a common historical heritage which derives its strength and deep roots both from Arab and Islamic values and from the common struggle for freedom and independence.

In this connection, the two delegations placed great emphasis on the significance of the 26 February 1983 meeting between His Majesty King Hassan II, the king of Morocco, and His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid. They also emphasized the significance of what took place between the Algerian head of state and His Excellency Habib Bourguiba, the president of Tunisia. These two meetings are some of the efforts made by Arab Maghreb officials, who are always eager to build the edifice of the Arab Maghreb.

In this spirit, the Moroccan and Algerian delegations reviewed various political, technical, and legal measures which must be taken to facilitate the movement of people and possessions and to encourage the gradual restoration of normal relations between the Kingdom of Moroccan and the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria within a reasonable time. This will contribute to finally and irrevocably creating an atmosphere of peace, tranquillity, and mutual confidence for the well-being of all the people of the Arab Maghreb.

The two delegations will resume their work to make the joint decisions into deeds. In this connection, M'hamed Yala, member of the FLN Political Bureau and Algeria's minister of interior, will go to Rabat in the second half of this month to make a final evaluation of the resolutions with Driss Basri, His Majesty King Hassan II's minister of interior.

Citizen Migration Agreement

LD041432 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] The general directors of national security for Algeria and Morocco have agreed on the following:

First, Algerian residents in Morocco and Moroccan residents in Algeria can move freely between the two countries beginning 7 April 1983.

Second, in relation to nonresidents, the current order temporarily continues to apply to them until better organizational measures and the coordination of the movement of persons and possessions between the countries of the great Arab Maghreb can be worked out.

This agreement follows the working session held in Algiers on 10 March 1983 [as heard] between Brother M'hamed Yala, member of the Political Bureau and Algerian interior minister, and Driss Basri, interior minister of the Moroccan Government of King Hassan II.

LIBYA

LEBANESE LEADER ARRIVES 3 APRIL, MAKES STATEMENT

LD040859 Tripoli JANA in English 0807 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Thani 21, April 4, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY -- Ibrahim Qulaylat, the head of the Independent Nasirite Movement-Al-Murabitun arrived last night in Tripoli.

In an interview with JANA's correspondent, Qualaylat said that the Zionist occupation of Lebanon undermines all the vital issues of the Arab nation, forefront of which is the Palestinian people's cause.

In his statement he condemned the shameful negotiations between the Zionist enemy and the Lebanese Government and added that this was the result of the barbaric Zionist invasion of Arab territories.

Qulaylat told JANA's correspondent that the Independent Nasirite Movement-Al-Murabitun is in total agreement with the position of Jamahiriyah as announced by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution, on the necessity to confront the Zionist occupation of Lebanon.

QNA REPORTS POSSIBLE PURCHASE OF FRENCH AIRCRAFT

GF011146 Doha QNA in Arabic 1040 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] Kuwait, 1 Apr (QNA) -- The Kuwaiti newspaper AS-SIYASAH reported today that France has started initial talks with Libya to sell it new advanced Mirage-2000 aircraft and other modern Etendard missile-carrying and launching aircraft.

The newspaper added that in return, France is conducting studies and holding numerous contacts in preparation for negotiations on the sale of Libyan oil at very special prices. It said that the success of these negotiations depends on the outcome of the visit which "Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison, will make to Paris next month.

Quoting what is described as high-level diplomatic sources, the newspaper said French President Francois Mitterrand believes it is necessary to deal with Libya on more than one level despite the fact that the French president and Colonel al-Qadhdhafi hold dissimilar views on the Chad crisis.

MAURITANIA

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS FROM TUNIS MEETING

AB041658 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Major Ahmed Ould Minnih, the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, returned to Noujakchott yesterday evening from Tunis where he presided over the deliberations of the Islamic Council. The deliberations of this session were held from 26 March to 1 April and took place in an atmosphere of efficiency and responsibility as required by the current state of the Arab nation, declared the minister on his return.

Maj Ahmed Ould Minnih stated that the agenda of the session included important items such as the situation in the occupied Arab territories, Arab-African cooperation and Franco-Arab dialogue. In all these political, economic, and institutional fields, the Council arrived at decisions to strengthen Arab action both on the Arab and international scenes.

In a nutshell, he continued, we can say that this session was a success. The minister further said that in addition to the deliberations of the Council, he held talks with the secretary general of the Arab League, the prime minister, and the minister of foreign affairs of Tunisia. Talks centered generally on the Arab and international situation and particularly on the situation in Arab North Africa. They also centered on bilateral relations and ways and means of strengthening them.

MOROCCO

LIBYAN DELEGATION REPORTEDLY VISITED IN MARCH

GF011712 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1430 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] Rabat, 1 Apr (WAKH) -- Informed diplomatic sources in Rabat today stressed that an important Libyan delegation headed by Mr 'Ali at-Turayki made a 1-week visit to Morocco about 10 days ago and that the visit was not announced. In a statement to the WAKH correspondent in Rabat, these sources explained that the delegation met a number of Moroccan officials, foremost of whom was King Hassan II.

It is likely that the two parties discussed a number of issues, foremost of which is the Polisario, which is supported by Libya, as well as the question of the Libyan opposition, some of whose leaders live in Morocco, and the Algerian-Moroccan summit last month.

The same sources added that Morocco agreed after the visit to open a people's bureau as an embassy for Tripoli in Rabat even though the credentials of the bureau's representative were rejected in the past.

It is worth noting that this visit coincides with the cable that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi sent to King Hassan II on the anniversary of his accession to the throne about 2 weeks ago.

These diplomatic sources believe that Moroccan-Libyan relations are on their way to improvement, particularly since Morocco promised the Libyan delegation not to oppose any African summit that Col al-Qadhdhafi calls for.

Within the framework of these good relations, King Hassan II will send his foreign minister, M'hamed Boucetta, to Tipoli to invite Col al-Qadhdhafi to the next summit that is supposed to be held in Fes in the middle of the next month.

AOSARIO COMMENTS ON MOROCCAN-ALGERIAN CONTACTS

PM041231 Casablanca LE MATIN in French 18 Mar 83 p 5

[MAP report: "Aosario Welcomes Efforts To Promote Peace"]

[Text] Rabat [no date given] -- The Aosario welcomes the efforts made to end the tension prevailing in northwest Africa and hence to help safeguard Maghreb unity, a communique issued by the association states.

The Aosario, the communique adds, "is bound to welcome the improvement in the situation and political climate -- a platform of guarantees which can dispel the confusion which has reigned since 1976.

"The Aosario," the communique continues, "encourages this initiative taken by Algerian and Moroccan diplomacy while paying tribute to the two countries' eminent heads of state who are working in the interest of peace and international law.

"If these initiatives have a positive result, we are convinced that they will liberate the region from mercenaries who represent a danger to stability, fraternity, and coexistence among the region's peoples," the Aosario concludes.

TUNISIA

BOURGUIBA RECEIVES ALGERIAN PRESIDENTIAL ENVOY

LD042017 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] This morning President Habib Bourguiba received at the Presidential Palace in Carthage Abdelhamid Mehri, member of the FLN Party Central Committee and envoy of Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. The meeting was attended by Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi and Algerian Ambassador to Tunisia Abdelghani Akbi. After the meeting the president of the republic invited the Algerian ambassador to lunch.

Before leaving the Presidential Palace, Abdelhamid Mehri made the following statement: I conveyed to the president a message from his brother President Chadli Bendjedid connected with the development of contacts among the officials of the Arab Maghreb countries following the return of President Chadli Bendjedid from his successful visit to Tunisia, and in accordance with the agreement for continued consultations among the officials of the Maghreb countries. The Algerian envoy concluded his statement by expressing thanks to the president of the republic for receiving him and for his valuable views.

DOCUMENT SIGNED; ALGERIAN DELEGATION LEAVES

LD012026 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] The minutes of the working sessions held on 29 and 30 March between the two delegations representing the Interior Ministries of Algeria and Tunisia were signed in Tunis today. The document, which was signed by the director general of (?organization) at the Algerian Interior Ministry and the secretary general of the Tunisian Interior Ministry, in the presence of the members of the delegations and the Algerian consul general in Tunis, calls for the following:

To ease the movement of the two countries' citizens;

To ease residence measures for the citizens of the two countries within the framework of the agreement concluded between the two countries on 26 July 1963;

To compile a directory of inhabitants of border areas;

To provide better conditions for rest and crossing and to ease measures at the first border center (Al-'Uyaun)-(Babouche);

To define practical measures for cooperation in the telecommunications field;

To lay down the structure for joint cooperation to turn border areas into liaison and development areas embodying the principle of good neighborliness and concord between the two peoples.

The Algerian delegation left Tunis this afternoon.

Official on Algerian Agreement

GF041940 Jidda AL-MADINAH in Arabic 2 Apr 83 p 1

[Mohamed Ali Klibi dispatch from Tunis]

[Text] In an exclusive statement to AL-MADINAH, Mahmoud Mestiri, Tunisia's secretary of state for foreign affairs, said that Tunisia wants to hold a tripartite meeting that will include President Bourguiba, King Hassan II, and President Chadli Bendjedid. He said this desire is receiving a positive response in Algeria and Morocco and this summit will be a culmination of the positive current developments in the Arab Maghreb region.

Mestiri said Tunisia wants to accelerate Algerian-Moroccan cooperation by participating in a solution to the Sahara issue within an expanded Moroccan-Arab framework that would take into consideration the Nairobi summit resolutions. "What we hope for in the Arab Maghreb region is to achieve what our brothers in the Gulf region have achieved," he said.

His excellency disclosed that celebrations will be held in the Moroccan city of Tanger in mid-April to mark the anniversary of the Tanger convention at the parties' levels, and these celebrations will be a new chance to continue dialogue to solve problems.

On the fraternity and reconciliation agreement Tunisia recently signed with Algeria, the Tunisian minister [as published] affirmed that this agreement is not directed toward any country and it is an open moral charter for the Arab Maghreb countries, Morocco, Mauritania, and Libya, and that the provisions of this agreement are liable to amendment.

With respect to the visit by the seven-member committee [to London] of which he was a member, the Tunisian minister affirmed that London expressed its readiness to participate in finding the Arab Fes peace plan. However, it considered the resolutions a positive step toward a solution, he noted. He said the only reservation Britain made was on the Fes decision regarding the Palestinian entity.

WESTERN SAHARA

COMMUNIQUE REPORTS ATTACKS ON MOROCCAN ARMY

LD041121 Algiers APS in English 1014 GMT 4 Apr 83

[All spellings of place names as received]

[Text] Liberated territories, 4/4/83 (APS) -- Combatants of the Saharan Popular Army attacked some positions of the Moroccan Army, a communique of the Saharan Ministry of Information indicated.

The communique stated that the Moroccan position of Aussengh was pounded on March 24.

Moreover, the Moroccan garrison of Ejhaiva was twice the target of the Saharan Army heavy artillery on March 25 and 26.

The communique also announced that a similar operation opposed a unit of the Saharan Army to the Moroccan forces settled in El Aymar, between Zak and Touizgin. During these operations, the Moroccan troops underwent substantial human amd material loses, the communique added.

ETHIOPIA

MENGISTU MEETS WITH DJIBOUTI PRIME MINISTER

EA042113 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0900 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia [COPWE] and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Army, has met and held talks with His Excellency Gourad Hamadou Barkat, prime minister of the Republic of Djibouti. On the occasion, which was held at the comrade chairman's COPWE Central Committee office this morning, our comrade revolutionary leader held talks with the prime minister on relations between Socialist Ethiopia and Djibouti and on international and prevailing continental issues.

UGANDA

ARMY OPERATION AGAINST REBELS COMPLETED

AB011454 Paris AFP in English 1233 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] Kampala, April 1 (AFP) -- Defense Ministry officials in Uganda said here yesterday that the main operation by the Uganda Army against anit-government rebels in Luwero district north of Kampala has now been completed. Two senior amry officers told journalists in Kampala yesterday that the Uganda Army had overrun the main camp of the National Resistance Army (NRA) led by former Defence Minister Yoweri Museveni. The camp was at Kanyanda trading centre, almost 30 miles north of Kampala in Luwero District, the officers said.

Government troops launched their "final offensive" against the rebels in Luwero District earlier this year, and Vice President Paulo Muwanga announced last weekend that he expected the rebels in Luwero District to be wiped out "within a few days".

Details of the Army operation in Luwero are still sparse. But the officers said that a large number of people had surrendered to the Army and were being screened.

Meanwhile, journalists were yesterday driven to Kitezi village, 10 miles north of Kampala, to a forest hide-out where stolen vehicles had been dismantled. According to Army officers on the trip, the rebels used to steal vehicles and strip them of spare parts which they then sold to raise funds for their operations. Two used 60mm shells had been left in the hide-out and there was a clearing nearby where grass huts had been erected.

Over the past two weeks there have been several attacks and killings in the Kampala region, but no-one has claimed responsibility. One person was killed in an attack on a convoy of lorries taking Rwandan and Ugandan coffee to Kenya, and a few hours later three passengers were killed in an attack on a train. About 30 people were hacked to death in two villages just to the east of the capital, and eight others were shot dead by unidentified attackers during a party rally of the ruling Uganda Peoples Congress in a village to the north-west of Kampala.

Earlier this week the permanent secretary of the Interior Ministry was murdered in Kampala by unknown attackers.

CONGO

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON CAR PRESIDENT'S VISIT

AB021030 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Congo-CAR joint communique issued in Brazzaville on 2 April 1983 at end of CAR President Andre Kolingba's official visit -- read by Congolese Foreign Minister Pierre Nze]

[Text] Talks were held between the Congolese and the CAR delegations led respectively by His Excellency Denis Sasso-Nguesso, president of the Congolese Labor Party Central Committee, president of the republic, head of state, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, and His Excellency Andre Kolingba, chairman of the Military Committee for National Redress and CAR head of state. The talks, which were held in a cordial and brotherly atmosphere, demonstrate the readiness and the determination of the two sides to promote stronger relations between the two countries.

The two parties carried out a broad exchange of views on their bilateral relations and on the world's current major issues. They decided to leave no stone unturned to increase and strengthen the fruitful cooperation between the two countries in the supreme interest of the Congolese and CAR people.

They expressed hope that the Congo-CAR joint commission will hold its maiden session in the near future. They also expressed their belief that inter-African cooperation must materialize the OAU principles and objectives, namely, the tapping of African potential resources with a view to achieving economic and social emancipation.

The two delegations expressed their concern over the current development of some international issues which jeopardizes the people's freedom and their right to dignity and progress and which poses a threat to world peace and security. They held the view that, in the face of this danger, the people must become aware of the need to safeguard their freedom and (?promote) greater solidarity among Third World countries in order to realize their legitimate aspirations.

They denounced all maneuvers aimed at creating and maintaining zones of permanent conflicts with the view of perpetuating foreign domination in Africa, hampering the natural development of inter-African cooperation, and breaking the bonds of solidarity among African countries in conformity with the OAU ideals and charter.

Examining the situation in central Africa, the two sides reiterated their attachment to the policy of good neighborliness and peace, which is the guarantee for unity and solidarity among the people of the subregion and which is necessary to achieve the harmonious development of their countries. They expressed satisfaction over the cooperation within the customs and Economic Union of Central Africa and over the expansion of that union. They expressed their hope that plans for setting up the economic community of central African states will be realized in conformity to the fundamental objectives of the Lagos plan of action aimed at creating of an African common market.

On the situation in southern Africa, the two parties strongly condemned the criminal acts of aggression perpetrated by the Pretoria regime against SWAPO and the frontline states. They reiterated their full and firm support for the Namibian people in their legitimate struggle for their freedom and independence under the leadership of SWAPO, their only authentic representative. In this regard, the two parties reiterated their total support for UN Security Council Resolution 435, whose full implementation should lead Namibia to independence.

Examining the situation in the Middle East, the two delegations expressed their belief that Security Council Resolution 242 remains the basis for a solution to the problem of that region and reiterated their firm and constant support for the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO in their just struggle to recover their fundamental and inalienable rights, in particular, their right to exist and to create an independent and sovereign state.

Faithful to the principles and objectives of the charters of the United Nations, the OAU, and the Nonaligned Movement, the two delegations reaffirmed their profound attachment to the noble ideals of peace, freedom, and justice in international relations. They expressed satisfaction over the outcome of the deliberations of the Seventh Summit of the Nonaligned Movement held in New Delhi.

At the end of his visit, President Andre Kolingba expressed his deepest thanks to President Denis Sassou-Nguesso and to the Congolese people for the brotherly, warm welcome and for the hospitality reserved him and the members of his delegation during their stay. He invited President Denis Sassou-Nguesso to pay an official, friendly visit to the CAR. The invitation was accepted with pleasure and the date will be set through diplomatic channels.

Sassou-Nguesso, Kolingba Remarks

AB041037 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Excerpts] At the end of President Kolingba's visit to Congo, newsmen approached him and his host, President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, on the outcome of their talks and the prospects for bilateral relations. Questioned first, the Congolese head of state reiterated Congolese Authorities' political willingness to strengthen the bilateral cooperation and safeguard good neighborliness and peace.

[Begin Sassou-Nguesso recording] I am sure that you would like to know how we will materialize such a political will. In reply to this, I will simply say that the communique calls for the meeting of the joint commission. We hold the view that during such a meeting our ministers and experts will endeavor to translate that political will into concrete, precise acts. Even without the meeting of the joint commission, the relations between the People's Republic of Congo and the CAR are so permanent that it is superfluous to speak of concrete acts or landmarks. We must indeed achieve more because we have the means to achieve more together. I think this will be done. I believe that the expected result will be achieved. If our ministers and experts work hard, we will achieve greater results than those we have achieved so far. [end recording]

For his part, the CAR head of state expressed the same political readiness. He further made it a point to clear up any possible misunderstanding between Congo and the CAR.

[Begin Kolingba recording] I want to be well understood here. When I set foot again on Congolese soil after several years of absence, I stated on the Congolese radio that ther was in fact no problem between the People's Republic of Congo and the CAR. Even if there were problems, they were inherited andnot created by the Kolingba regime. For me, the platform for our bilateral cooperation is clean. The members of my delegation and myself are very satisfied with the contacts we have just had here with a view to destroying the wall that may stand between the CAR and the People's Republic of Congo. [end recording]

GHANA

RAWLINGS STATEMENT ON NEW PDC-NDC STRUCTURE

AB050726 Accra Domestic Service in English 0615 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Statement by Provisional National Defense Council Chairman Flight Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings in Accra on 5 April -- read by announcer]

[Text] There have been impatient calls for a new National Defense Committee [NDC] to be established to replace the dissolved NDC. AT the same time, several editions of Peoples Defense Committee [PDC] guidelines have come out, and the periodic changes in these guidelines have led to some inconsistencies in the functioning of community PDCS and workplace workers defense committees [WDC]. Since PDCS and the NDC are all part of the same structure, it has been necessary to produce a document spelling out clearly the functions and organization of the entire structure from the smallest grassroots unit PDCS right up to the NDC. This has taken some time, but the job has now been done.

When we talk about a revolutionary process, it implies that a revolution is not static but changes as time goes on. Therefore, the new PDC-NDC guidelines are designed for the present stage of the revolution, and so will be subject to alteration in the future. But I beleive that they have been designed with enough flexibility to remain relevant for some time to come so that there will be no need for too frequent changes. There will be changes, however, As the guidelines clearly state, the new document is relevant to the present phase of the revolution but is also a preparation for future phases.

As the defense committees become more effective in giving people the opportunity to determine their own destiny at community or workplace level, the way will be open to bring in elected representatives of the peoples, first at district level, then region, and ultimately at the national level. This will eventually pave the way for the National Defense Council which will be the people's true democracy. It has also been necessary in preparing this document to learn from previous mistakes.

At the PDC-WDC level, there have been in the past attempts to exclude certain categories of people from membership. This has discouraged those who, whatever their class, or category, or position, sincerely believe in the aims of the national democratic revolution, but they have found themselves excluded from participating in the PDCS, which are the very foundation of the revolutionary process. The new guidelines say, and I quote: "Membership of the defense committees is open to all persons who are prepared to uphold and defend the basic objectives of the ongoing revolutionary process and who have a proven record of patriotism, integrity, and democratic practice." To those who may feel this gives too much latitude for membership, I would point out that the character and commitment of the individual is more important than the class from which he or she comes of position which he or she holds. The guidelines have adequate safeguards to ensure the exclusion or the removal of persons who as individuals are not the type of people to be involved in the PDCS.

Another problem which has existed in the past at the district, regional, and national levels has been an element of rivalry between personnel within the NCD structure and those concerned with the administration of day-to-day affairs.

Occasional personality clashes cannot be avoided, but it is possible to so design the system that such occurances are minimized. The present document seeks to avoid this. For example, the highest representatives of the government at district and regional levels are the district and regional secretaries. For them to give the defense committee coordinators in their areas the fullest cooperation, they need to be informed of their activities. Therefore, the composition of the district and regional defense committees' steering committees is such as to involve the representatives of the district and regional secretaries to ensure full cooperation and understanding between them and the defense committee coordinators.

The composition of the NDC itself also seeks to unite all the elements of the revolutionary process. The text of the guidelines will shortly be available in the form of a printed booklet. Meanwhile, it will be published section by section in the press so that there shall be no delay in implementation. To implement these guidelines, additional material will be published as soon as possible. This will include a PDC constitution giving details of procedures at meetings, the keeping of proper accounts, and other practical details to make sure that all committees follow the same standard procedures. There will also be some short handbooks to assist PDCS to carry out their functions more effectively. The NDC will help organize the PDCS and WDCS to promote, ensure, and maintain a continuous process of education and strict discipline.

The revolutionary process will only succeed if we all strive toward attaining a good sense of judgment and steadfast conscious. It is through a disciplined people working in a disciplined system that we can increase productivity to achieve a higher standard of living and increase our dignity as a people.

I hope that the guidelines on the PDC-NDC structure will bring about a new forward trust in the development and strengthening of our revolutionary process. The names of the NDC members will be announced shortly. However, it should be noted that continued membership of the NDC, just as in the PDC, depends upon a continued record of strict revolutionary discipline. Since the Provisional National Defense Council relies upon the NDC as the highest coordinating organ of the PDCS, the conduct, utterances, and actions of its members must at all times reflect a deep sense of maturity and a clear understanding of the revolutionary process.

PNDC APPOINTS THREE NEW DEPUTY SECRETARIES

AB050706 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] The People's National Defense Council [PNDC] has appointed three new deputy secretaries and members of the western region citizens vetting subcommittee. The new deputy secretaries are: Dr (Mercy Bannerman), for health, Mr (Aron Osei), central region; and Mr E. (Mete), deputy secretary for agriculture in charge of greater Accra.

The western region citizens vetting subcommittee has Mr J. (Yan Mpofo) as chairman. Other members are Ernest Eagan, an accountant; M. (Odu Poku), inspector of taxes; and A.K. (Konvoh), chief technical officer, forestry. Mr (Asamoah), a national serviceman, has been coopted as an observer on the subcommittee.

LIBERIA

DRAFT CONSTITUTION PRESENTED TO REDEMPTION COUNCIL

AB302140 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1900 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Text] The draft constitution for Liberia's return to democratic rule in 1985 has been presented to the People's Redemption Council [PRC]. The draft was presented today to the council's chairman, the head of state Samuel K. Doe, by the chairman of the constitution commission, Dr Amos Sawyer, in the palace of the Executive Mansion. It was completed and signed on]9 January this year by the 25 members of the constitution commission.

According to the commission's term of reference from the PRC, the next move is for the draft constitution to be discussed by a constitutional advisory assembly which will be composed of elected individuals from all political subdivisions of Liberia. Following the assembly's examination of the draft and recommendations to the PRC, the draft constitution will be presented to the Liberian people for a national referendum.

Accepting the document from Dr Sawyer, Chairman Doe said he and his colleagues of the council were of the conviction that in laying the foundation for the return to democratic rule they were undertaking a major act of redemption of the Liberian people. Commander in Chief [CIC] Doe further stressed that the acceptance of the draft constitution would have a significant impact on the future prosperity of Liberia and the political well-being of its people. This, moreover, he said, demonstrates a commitment on the part of the PRC that the men and women of the Armed Forces of Liberia would shape a new destiny for the country, one which will contain the basic elements of democracy, justice, and equality. While addressing deep appreciation to Dr Sawyer and members of the commission for the excellent work done during nearly 2 years of deliberations, CIC Doe reminded the Liberian people that the drafting of the constitution is only the beginning of the great task before us to return this nation to civilian rule.

Earlier, in presenting the document to Chairman Doe on behalf of the 25-member commission, Dr Sawyer said: This draft represents our interpretation of the collective aspirations of our people as expressed by them and also the finest collective thinking within the framework of various professional and social backgrounds and [words indistinct] of our society. Dr Sawyer then cautioned all Liberians that the drafting of a new constitution was not the surest guarantee of justice, peace, and progress in the society. He said that a constitution does not implement itself and that its success depends entirely on the respect accorded it by the leaders and by the people. The ceremony was attended by members of the PRC, top military brass, members of the diplomatic corps, the clergy, and the Cabinet, among others.

SENEGAMBIA

AFP: GAMBIA, SENEGAL COMBINE ARMED FORCES

AB301157 Paris AFP in English 1130 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Excerpts] Banjul, March 30 (AFP) -- Gambia and Senegal have ratified the agreement integrating their armed forces and allowing for joint defence of the new confederation. The two protocols covering security affairs were linked to the agreement signed in January which established the Senegambian confederation.

Under the new Constitution Senegal's President Abdou Diouf is president of the federation while Gambian President Sir Dawda Jawara is vice-president.

ANGOLA

FORMER FNLA LEADER APPEALS TO COLLEAGUES

AB051224 Luanda Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] The CIA and the NATO countries are still giving support to the counter-revolutionary Angolan National Liberation Front, FNLA, in its acts against Angola. This was disclosed yesterday by Commander Barreiros, the former chief of general staff of the movement. Commander Barreiros, who surrendered recently to the Angolan authorities with seven other officials of the movement, told the press in Luanda yesterday that his surrender was only a response to the appeal made in Cabinda in 1978 by the late President Agostinho Neto for all countrymen belonging to puppet movements and desirous to surrender to the country's legal authorities with a view to participating in national reconstruction to feel free to do so. Commander Barreiros also pointed out that another reason for his surrender was that he was expelled from the FNLA for he had lost the trust of that puppet organization's leadership. Listen to his appeal:

[Begin Barreiros recording in French] The time is opportune. The time has come for you to come back to your country, this nice, beautiful country envied by [word indistinct] and endowed with mineral resources in considerable quantities.

I am making this appeal to you, in particular to you intellectuals, to you people, and to you farmers: Come home for the national reconstruction. The enemy will not lay down arms today, nor tomorrow. But thanks to your contribution and in addition to the achievements of Comrade Antonio Agostinho Neto, with your participation and efforts, we -- already in the country -- strongly believe that we will make a step forward. And we will succeed in checking the advance of racist South Africans who are using every means to destabilize our country. you are now, remember that you are still aliens. Your presence and your participation in the war for the national reconstruction is indispensable.

We henceforth call for your understanding and your patriotism for this beatiful country so you will feel that you are Angolans. Whatever your ages or your social positions, return to your country for national reconstruction efforts with the comrades of the MPLA-Labor Party who are receiving us thanks to the clemency of Comrade President Dr Agostinho Neto expressed in his Cabinda appeal. I believe that the clemency is not discriminatory. The doors are open to all Angolan children whatever their education level. Come back for the reconstruction of the country.

I, the person speaking to you now, am the former FNLA chief of general staff, Commander Barreiros. I am flanked by Comrade Commander Figueira, also a former cofounding member of the Kipungo base, and by Comrade Commander Neves, who is also a cofounder of the Kipungo base. We did not precede you in order to block the road but to open it to you and to make you return to your country. I appeal to you to think over the appeal. I am not making this appeal under threats by armed men. I am addressing you freely, as an Angolan citizen. I thank you. [end recording]

The surrender of these FNLA officials strengthens the fair policy of the MPLA-Labor Party, which shows tolerance toward all those who have once worked against the interests of the people and for international imperialism.

AFP: UNITA CLAIMS 164 ANGOLANS, 34 CUBANS KILLED

AB041457 Paris AFP in French 1415 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Lisbon, 4 Apr (AFP) -- The Angolan guerrilla movement UNITA killed 164 government troops and 34 Cubans during five attacks which took place on 2 April in six Angolan provinces. This was stated on Monday in Lisbon in a communique issued by Jonas Savimbi's movement.

The communique, received at the AFP office, said that 11 UNITA fighters -- among whom was Captain Daniel Henrique Kafundanga -- were killed and 16 were wounded. Among the Cubans killed were Captain Armando Glez and Lieutenant Pedro Carrillo Sousa.

During the operations, the communique added, UNITA forces captured 1[illegible] People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] (Angola Army) soldiers and three lieutenants and shot down one Alouette-3 helicopter. These operations, the communique concluded, were launched in Kuando-Kubando Province against positions guarded by the 3d government batallion in Cuito Canavale and against FAPLA detachments in the Lunda-Sul and Lunda-Norte Provinces. According to UNITA, three attacks against mechanized columns took place in Kuanza-Norte, Malange, and Kuanze-Sul Provinces.

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON 30 MARCH MPLA MEETING

AB041536 Luanda ANGOP in French 1230 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] Luanda, 2 Apr (ANGOP) -- This is the text of the final communique published yesterday at the end of the party meeting which was chaired by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos on 30 March in Luanda in the presence of members of the Political Bureau and the Central Committee Secretariat, coordinators, and assistant coordinators of the party's provincial committees, directors of the Central Committee departments of the MPLA-Labor Party, and first and second secretaries of the party's youth wing:

Within the framework of the implementation of decision No 2 of the internal resolution adopted by the 11th session of the Central Committee, President Jose dos Santos chaired from 30 March to 1 April an orientation meeting to discuss the ways and means of achieving a better relationship between the main, intermediary, and grassroots institutions of the party and to discuss problems related to the administration of the party, especially its leading role within government and the nation.

The following officials participated in the meeting: the members of the Political Bureau and the Secretariat of the Central Committee, coordinators and assistant coordinators of the party's provincial committees, directors of the Central Committee departments, first and second state secretaries, first provincial secretaries of the MPLA's youth wing, and officials of the department of organization of the Central Committee (Dorgan).

In his opening address to the meeting, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos discussed the political and military situation in the country and the leading role of the party in a revolutionary and democratic dictatorship and stressed the need to strengthen the ties between the labor force and the (?party), President dos Santos talked about the administration of the party's institutions and the implementation of the emergency programs that have already been approved.

The meeting discussed questions related to the strengthening of the leading role of the party within the present social composition of the MPLA-Labor Party, the extension of the party, the organization and administration of the party, as well as propaganda and counterpropaganda. A report was also given on the main aspects of the 1983 action plan.

Some of the main aspects brought up during the meeting were a study of the present composition of the MPLA-Labor Party and the extension of the party. If was also recommended that the implantation of the party in rural areas should be intensified to mobilize this important section of the population for the carrying out of revolutionary tasks.

Concerning the extension of the party, it was decided that priority should be given to the labor force in the industrial, transport, and construction sectors, and to members of rural associations and agricultural cooperatives in the agropastoral sector. The implantation of the party within the main government organs was also discussed. It was decided that priority should be given to the educational domain. [Words indistinct] officials belonging to the party, the party's youth wing, and those in the government and social and people's organizations.

The administration of the party at all levels was intensely studied and the need to strengthen executive commissions and the Central Committee's supervision of the party was emphasized. In order to give the party the necessary means to carry out its functions, the party's department of administration and finances was charged with the drawing up of a plan that will meet the party's urgent needs.

[Words indistinct] were given special attention so they can fulfill their role as enforcers and overseers of party policies. [Words indistinct] the supervision [words indistinct]. Thus it was recommended that there should be an intensification of the ways and means [words indistinct]. It was recommended that all possible means be used [words indistinct].

Finally, the meeting was informed about the party's 1983 action plan in which special attention is given to national defense and to improving the conditions of [words indistinct].

As the country is facing a difficult situation caused by increased imperialist aggression, the meeting called on all party institutions to mobilize all party members and the nation to carry out the emergency programs.

Given the importance of national unity in transforming the revolution into socialism, the meeting urged party members, under the leadership of the Central Committee and President Eduardo dos Santos, to reinforce unity within the party so as to increase vigilance in the struggle against the South African aggressor and its puppets.

ZIMBABWE

RADIO SAYS ZAPU COMMAND SET UP IN BOTSWANA

MB041737 Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] A five-man ZAPU military high command has been formed at Dukwe refugee camp in Botswana to recruit dissidents for military training in racist-ruled South Africa. According to a ZIANA reporter who visited the camp over the weekend, the dissident military high command is composed of two members of the ZAPU Central Committee and three former ZIPRA commanders.

The refugees are quoted as saying the commanders defected from the national Army and entered Botwana with the aim to create an army which could fight and try to overthrow the Zimbabwe Government. However, the ZIANA correspondent says his investigations have proved that there are no training camps for dissidents in Botswana. The correspondent makes reference to the former ZIPRA commander by the name of (Masotsha Ndlovu), who said the high command has decided to send the dissidents to South Africa for military training because the Botswana Government could not allow such activities on its territory.

The refugees interviewed said the military high command has been responsible for several kidnappings and killings in the Matabeleland area. The refugees also denied that they fled the country because of the alleged harassment by the 5th Brigade. They give their reason for fleeing the country as the current drought that has hit the country, including their own area.

In a related development, two captured self-confessed dissident ZAPU officials yesterday told a rally in (Munyatt) in Matabeleland how they hid arms after ZAPU had told them about preparations for a war to overthrow the Zimbabwe Government. The ZAPU officials, (Ahmed Shabangu) and (Alias Meyer), told thousands of people how they were going to supply the arms to the dissidents. The rally was addressed by government ministers, including the minister of national supply, Comrade Nkala.

MALAWI SOCIALIST LEAGUE LEADER ASSASSINATED

MB011720 Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Excerpt] A spokesman for the Ministry of Information, Posts, and Telecommunications announced today the death of Dr Attati Mpakati, who was the national chairman of the Malawi Socialist League. Dr Mpakati was assassinated by unknown people in Harare, and his body was identified at (Parire Nyadza) Hospital. The late Malawi Socialist League leader was resident in Maputo, Mozambique, and he traveled to Zimbabwe on 23 March. However, he did not arrive at the Harare address he had given on immigration papers at the airport. On 28 March his body was found near the intersection of Samora Machel Avenue and Enterprise Road, and it had a gunshot wound in the head. Police suspect foul play and investigations are under way.

Malawi Government Accused

PA031945 Paris AFP in English 1830 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Harare, April 3 (AFP) -- The opposition Socialist League of Malawi (Lesoma) today accused the Malawi Government of murdering Lesoma leader Attati Mpakati, found dead here last week. The Lesoma statement, released by the movement's steering committee in the Tanzanian capital and published here by the Zimbabwean news agency ZIANA, charged that Mr. Mpakati had been "assassinated in cold blood by agents of the blood-thirsty regime of President Hastings Kamuzu Banda."

The Malawi Government, in a statement published by the Malawi high commission here, rejected any suggestion that it was involved "or in any way connected" with Mr. Mpakati's death. The Malawi Government said in its statement that Malawi had been aware of the activities of Lesoma and of other "dissident groups but that government policy had been not to act against the persons of any of these leaders of the dissident groups." "To do so would not only give such persons undeserved attention but also reduce the sovereign government to the level of thuggery," the statement continued.